

Daily Report

East Asia

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NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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Japan

Quadrilateral Talks on GATT Impasse Proposed

Country Invited to Talks

OW1410092393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0911 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 14 KYODO—Japan has been urged to attend a special session of quadrilateral trade talks on the Uruguay Round of global trade negotiations, a senior Trade Ministry official said Thursday [14 October].

Vice Trade Minister Hideaki Kumano told a news conference the session is aimed at breaking an impasse in the GATT-sponsored trade negotiations. The invitation was sent by European Community (EC) Vice Chairman Sir Leon Brittan to Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata and International Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshi Kumagai.

The informal ministerial meeting is planned for Geneva in the near future by four trading partners—the EC, Canada, Japan and the United States, Kumano said. Brittan, in a news conference after his meeting with U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor in Brussels Wednesday, proposed the quadrilateral meeting be held within 10 days.

General elections in Canada, set for October 25, will be taken into account when setting the date for the special session, Kumano said, adding that progress in discussions must be ensured in advance if the meeting is held.

MITI Official Welcomes Proposal

OW1410110893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1044 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 14 KYODO—A top Trade Ministry official on Thursday [14 October] responded positively to a proposed trade ministerial meeting between Canada, the European Community (EC), Japan and the United States to speed up the stalled global trade talks.

The official said he heard that EC external economic affairs commissioner Sir Leon Brittan sent a letter of his proposal to hold a special quadrilateral meeting in two or three weeks. The session would be aimed at expediting the long-stalled Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Although the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) has not yet received the letter, Japan would accept such a proposal, the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

"The time has come when we should dash to a final goal (of the round talks)," the official said. "We cannot imagine anywhere else except the quad [quadrilateral] meeting to break a deadlock." The 116-nation trade talks have come to a standstill with little progress since they were resumed in September, mainly due to farm disputes between Washington and Brussels. Under the circumstances, some voice concerns over whether the seven-year-old talks can be concluded by the December 15 deadline.

The official expected the special four-way meeting to be held within this month at the earliest to coordinate views among the four economic superpowers on key issues, including agriculture, before November 15, the deadline for negotiating nations to submit their product-by-product national lists or schedules of proposed reductions in tariffs.

A senior official at the Foreign Ministry also sounded positive about the quad trade talks, saying it is "meaningful" for officials concerned from the four parties to hold a meeting at an appropriate time.

"It's important to bring the (Uruguay Round) talks to a successful conclusion," said the official, adding Japan for its part should do whatever it can to that end.

Other MITI Official Cited

OW1410063093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0426 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 14 KYODO—A senior trade official expressed reservations Thursday [14 August] over a proposed trade ministerial meeting between Canada, the European Community (EC), Japan and the United States, on the stalling global trade talks.

EC External Economic Affairs Commissioner Sir Leon Brittan proposed Wednesday the holding of a four-way trade meeting, within 10 days, aimed at expediting the long-stalled Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The official of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), who wants not to be identified, said a ministerial meeting would only be appropriate if its intended outcome was to bring the Round talks to a successful conclusion.

"We have to analyze how much progress was made so far in the whole negotiations and see whether the quad meeting can be a timely one," he said.

The ministry is currently considering the possibility of holding a ministerial meeting among more than 10 nations, including the four major economic powers and some developing countries, in Seattle in the middle of November. The ministry is considering making such a proposal to GATT Director General Peter Sutherland when he visits Tokyo next Wednesday, the official said.

Talks Open With U.S. on Insurance Market

Countries at 'Loggerheads'

OW1210135093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1338 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 12 KYODO—Japan and the United States on Tuesday [12 October] were at loggerheads over Japanese access to the U.S. insurance market, in the second round of bilateral negotiations that opened here to establish a new trade framework. At working-level talks on both countries' insurance industry, the Japanese side demanded Washington simplify licensing procedures for foreign insurers in the U.S. by integrating regulations that vary from one state to another.

Tokyo also proposed scrapping a rule in some U.S. states requiring foreign insurers to appoint U.S. citizens to their boards when establishing a subsidiary. But U.S. trade negotiators rejected the demands, saying no discriminatory policies exist for foreign insurance companies trying to enter the U.S. market.

On Wednesday, the focus of talks will center around what Washington views as a closed insurance market in Japan, including the "keiretsu" collusive business groupings among Japanese companies.

Insurance talks will be followed by discussion on financial services, telecommunications, autos and auto parts. The discussions for a new trade framework follow talks held in Hawaii in September, and the latest round will last until October 22.

The Japanese side is headed by Eisuke Sakakibara, deputy director general of the Finance Ministry's International Finance Bureau, and the U.S. delegation is led by Ira Wolf, assistant U.S. trade representative for Japan and China.

'Barbs' Traded With U.S.

OW1310153793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1444 GMT 13 Oct 93

[By William Mallard, Keiji Urakami]

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 13 KYODO—Japan and the United States opened a round of trade talks by exchanging barbs Wednesday [13 October] over their insurance markets and by failing to narrow their differences. In the first concrete talks under a bilateral trade framework, the U.S. said foreign insurers should get a "significantly" greater share of the Japanese market in three to four years or the U.S. could retaliate under its own trade laws. With the public language heating up, each side called the other's insurance market closed and demanded changes in the way the markets are regulated.

A senior U.S. Administration official said similar U.S. demands, and public sales campaigns for them, will follow in other sectors covered by the bilateral trade

framework agreement, such as government procurement, medical equipment and autos and auto parts. The official added that Japan has done nothing to stave off sanctions against Japanese construction companies for U.S. Government projects, with a deadline in two and a half weeks.

At the insurance talks, both sides were "parallel, with basic differences of stance failing to be narrowed," said Japanese delegation head Eisuke Sakakibara.

Japan rejected a U.S. call to scrap the need for administrative permission to license insurance products and services, said Sakakibara, deputy director general of the Finance Ministry's International Finance Bureau.

The U.S. official, who refused to be further identified, told reporters Washington wants to replace bureaucratic approval with a "notification" system in which new products or services would be allowed unless bureaucrats can show a danger to consumer protection or threat of financial insolvency. The U.S. official also urged Japan's fair trade commission to investigate Japan's "keiretsu" web of interlocking business relationships, in which he said Japanese businesses overwhelmingly buy insurance from the insurers in their keiretsu grouping.

Sakakibara declined at a press conference to give Tokyo's response to a U.S. request for quantitative measures of success in opening the Japanese market. The U.S. official said the U.S. hopes Tokyo will agree on "quantitative and qualitative indicators" but that Washington is ready to set them unilaterally and hold Tokyo to them.

Despite the tough language, he expressed confidence the two sides could reach substantive agreement on goals and procedures—even if they remained apart on measurement criteria—before a January or February summit between prime minister Morihiro Hosokawa and president Bill Clinton.

U.S. insurance delegation head Ira Wolf, the assistant U.S. trade representative for Japan and China, gave the Japanese data which he said shows Japan's market is closed, Sakakibara said. The U.S. official said foreign market share is one of the objective criteria the U.S. wants included, but declined to name other benchmarks or comment on details of the meeting.

Japan is "totally out of whack with the rest of the industrial world" in the insurance sector, the official said. He said foreign insurers have at most 2 percent of the Japanese life and nonlife markets, compared with 10 percent foreign share of the U.S. market and 33 percent in Italy.

In three to four years, Japan should be within that range, the official said. If it is not, the official repeated that Washington "reserves the right" to use U.S. trade laws, including retaliatory provisions, where the U.S. finds foreign markets to be closed.

Sakakibara expressed doubt over the reliability of the share figures, which use a variety of sources and classify as foreign any insurer with more than 50 percent foreign capital.

"The U.S. insurance market is clearly closed," he said. Japanese complaints include state-by-state regulations and fingerprint requirements for foreign directors and the low level of Japanese participation in the U.S. market as proof of U.S. exclusivity.

The U.S. official called such comparisons "irrelevant," saying the rules apply to all insurers and noting industry statistics that find other foreign insurers with far higher participation, with Britain's 14 billion dollars in premiums last year compared to Japan's less than 1 billion dollars.

"It's totally bizarre" for the Japanese to say they are "defenders of free trade and the United States is some Neanderthal" protectionist bastion, the U.S. official retorted.

He speculated that Japan's low participation was due in part to "lack of effort—they don't try hard enough—lack of interest, lack of competitiveness," and a pattern of focusing on their traditional customers who set up shop overseas.

Saito Dismisses U.S. Demands

OW1410100893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0958 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 14 KYODO—Vice Finance Minister Jiro Saito rejected a U.S. request Thursday [14 October] for Tokyo to introduce objective criteria as a way to gauge the openness of Japan's insurance market. The government firmly maintains a policy of not setting numerical standards on trade, both in macroeconomics and microeconomics, Saito told a press conference.

During Wednesday's working-level talks between Japan and the United States on access to each other's insurance market, Washington urged Tokyo to promise to expand the foreign share of the Japanese insurance market to around 10 percent within three to four years from the current 2 percent.

"An illustrative set of criteria," as suggested by former Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa in his letter to U.S. President Bill Clinton in July, should be taken as nonbinding, Saito said. The criteria may serve as a base for bilateral discussion, but do not represent any goals or targets that bind Japan, he said.

Saite renewed his support for a proposal by Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa to carry out income tax cuts after securing financial sources to cover them.

Hosokawa proposed enacting a law that would make income tax reductions financially feasible.

Saito indirectly accepted the issuance of short-term government bonds as a bridge before specific money

what would matter most for any tax cuts is whether or not the plan can be backed by "collateral" funds, he said, indicating the need for a hike in the consumption tax rate, which is currently set at 3 percent.

Financial Regulation Talks Open With U.S.

OW1410073593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0215 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 14 KYODO—Japan and the United States started two days of negotiations in Tokyo on Thursday [14 October] over regulations on financial services in the two countries. In the talks, the U.S. is expected to call for further easing of curbs on public pension fund management by U.S. investment advisers, sources in the Ministry of Finance said.

The U.S. will also likely ask Japan to allow investment trust firms to sell their products not only at securities firms but also at banks, the sources said.

The Japanese side, meanwhile, is likely to push for revision of U.S. regulations that vary from state to state, a factor which Tokyo says serves as a barrie to Japanese financial institutions wishing to do business in the U.S. market. The financial services talks are part of the comprehensive trade framework the two governments agreed to establish in July in a bid to rectify the chronically lop-sided trade balance, currently in Japan's favor.

Telecommunication Talks Open With U.S. 14 Oct OW1410073493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0325 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 14 KYODO—Japanese and U.S. trade negotiators started working-level talks Thursday [14 October] on Japan's procurement in the area of telecommunications. The talks, at the Foreign Ministry in Tokyo, are part of a two-week session that started Tuesday on a comprehensive bilateral trade framework.

The U.S. is expected to continue efforts it made in the first session in Hawaii last month to press Japan to buy more foreign telecommunications equipment, Japanese officials said.

U.S. negotiators have complained this week that Japan buys a much smaller proportion of foreign telecom products than European nations and that the Japanese market is closed. They produced a list of 10 areas in which they wants changes by Japan, including product specifications and bidding procedures.

The Americans complain that Japanese companies have an advantage in bidding for government procurements due to specifications for equipment, and say the bidding system is unclear.

They are urging the introduction of "objective criteria" to measure Japan's progress in the field. Next week the

talks will turn to medical equipment, automobiles and auto parts, and export competitiveness.

U.S. To Investigate Fuji Film Company

OW1310010493 Tokyo KYODO in English 2321 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Washington, Oct. 12 KYODO—The U.S. International Trade Commission Tuesday [12 October] authorized the Commerce Department to probe a complaint by Eastman Kodak Co. that its main Japanese rival, Fuji Photo Film Co., has illegally dumped color photo print paper in the United States.

The six-member commission ruled unanimously that there are indications Fuji has been selling color negative photographic paper at unfairly low prices in the U.S. market and the action may harm the U.S. domestic industry. Color negative photographic paper is primarily used for making color prints from color negative film.

Kodak charged in a petition filed with the International Trade Commission and the U.S. Commerce Department in August that the U.S. price for Fuji photographic paper produced both in Japan and the Netherlands is one-fourth those of identical products Fuji sells in Japan.

Under U.S. antidumping law, the Commerce Department has until February 8 to issue a preliminary finding on Kodak's complaints. The International Trade Commission will follow up with a final ruling on whether Fuji imports have actually damaged the U.S. industry. Kodak has asked the U.S. Government to slap more than 275 percent in punitive tariffs on the color negative photographic paper imported by Fuji.

Mondale Urges Economic Stimulus Measures OW1410124593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1217 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 14 KYODO—U.S. Ambassador to Japan Walter Mondale on Thursday [14 October] urged Japan to implement measures to stimulate the country's economy, officials of Japan's former ruling party said. Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) officials said Mondale made the call in talks with LDP President Yohei Kono.

Washington seeks boosted consumer demand to help ease the country's massive trade surplus with the United States. LDP officials said Mondale also told Kono that Tokyo and Washington must continue efforts to facilitate an early conclusion to the stalled Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations.

Kono was quoted as saying that while the LDP has now become an opposition party in the wake of last July's general election, it had worked hard over the past decades to strengthen the Japan-U.S. relationship.

Mondale responded that the LDP, being the largest opposition party, will be accorded due "respect" and treated "fairly" by the U.S., the officials said.

U.S. Trade Official Cited on APEC Framework OW1310025893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0134 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Washington, oct. 12 KYODO—The United States hopes to create an Asia-Pacific "framework" that would serve as a "coherent regional voice" in setting trade and investment policies, a senior U.S. trade official said Tuesday [13 October].

Deputy U.S. trade representative Charlene Barshefsky said she expects the creation of the regional trade and investment facilitating body would be approved at the Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) ministerial conference to be held in Seattle from November 17 to 19.

"This framework will be the centerpiece of the ministerial conference," she said in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE and a group of other Japanese news organizations. Barshefsky said the proposed APEC trade and investment framework will be responsible for setting broad trade policies for the 15- member regional group, addressing such issues as business facilitation, harmonization of customs practices and trade-related standards.

Such a trade and investment framework is necessary to make APEC "a coherent regional voice" on multilateral economic issues common to trading partners in the Asia-Pacific region, Barshefsky said.

Barshefsky, the top U.S. trade official in charge of Asia and Latin American affairs, said Washington also should develop a "more Asia looking trade policy," noting that the U.S. trade across the Pacific is now 50 percent larger than the value of U.S. trade with Europe.

"If you look at our trade policy over the years, it is vastly Eurocentric and heavily oriented toward our own hemisphere," said Barshefsky in explaining the apparent shift in U.S. trade policy.

Barshefsky, apparently seeking to deflect concerns in some Asian countries, said working groups to be established under the proposed APEC trade and investment framework would have no supranational authorities.

"First, APEC proceeds by consensus and, second, ultimate decisions are made by (APEC) ministers," Barshefsky said, offering what she described as two cardinal principles binding the function of APEC working groups.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), in a meeting in Singapore this week, backed the proposed APEC trade and investment framework but expressed concern that it may turn the loosely-linked regional grouping into a formal institution.

The six ASEAN member countries—Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand—all belong to the APEC group, which also includes the United States, Canada, Japan, South Korea, China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Australia and New Zealand.

Hosokawa To Meet ROK Prime Minister 6-7 Nov OW1310144293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1433 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 13 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa will visit South Korea on November 6 and 7 and hold summit talks with President Kim Yongsam, government sources said Wednesday [13 October]. The topics will include the issue of korean women who said they were forced into prostitution at Japanese frontline military brothels during World War II, as well as how to counteract North Korea's suspected nuclear development program and its "Nodong-1" ballistic missile, they said.

Japanese and South Korean diplomats are consulting each other about a location for the summit talks, they said. Candidate places are Seoul, Kyongju and Cheju island.

Hosokawa's political schedule is so tight due to the pressing need to push his political and electoral reform bills through the Diet that he chose Saturday and Sunday for the summit, they said. He earlier told reporters that he wants to talk with Kim on a range of topics in an atmosphere that "is not rigid."

In Seoul, YONHAP news agency reported Wednesday that Kim plans to hold summit talks with Hosokawa on November 6 in Seoul. YONHAP quoted a high-placed government official as saying that Hosokawa will make an official two-day "working" visit to Seoul, beginning November 6. The official quoted by YONHAP also said the summit will be a "get-to-know" one another session for the leaders of the two countries.

Japan's official apology for the plight of the korean women, to whom Tokyo earlier ruled out extending compensation on the basis of a diplomatic settlement in the 1965 Japan-South Korea basic treaty, which established diplomatic relations between the two countries. Historians say up to 200,000 Asian women, mostly Korean, were taken as "comfort women" to frontline brothels to provide sex to Japanese soldiers during the war.

The alleged nuclear weapons program is under renewed international scrutiny after Pyongyang rejected fresh talks in September over demands by the International Atomic Energy Agency to accept inspection of its suspected development sites. North Korea also acknowledged test-firing new ballistic missiles with a range of 1,000 kilometers.

Kim earlier told Japanese State Minister Sadao Yamahana that South Korea wants to place priority on enhancing joint efforts to counter the threat from the North Korean nuclear program. Yamahana visited Seoul in September as the then head of the Social Democratic Party, the largest of the seven parties in the ruling coalition. YONHAP said the results of the summit meeting are likely to have far-reaching effects on future bilateral relations and the northeast Asian situation as the summit will be the first since new administrations in South Korea and Japan were inaugurated in February and August, respectively.

Kim Tae-chung Agrees To Questioning on Kidnap OW1210081093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0714 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 12 KYODO—Former South Korean opposition leader Kim Tae-chung told Japanese police on Tuesday [12 October] he would answer questions regarding his 1973 abduction from a Tokyo hotel if the questioning was brief, the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department said.

Police said they plan about an hour of questioning at a hotel near Narita Airport on Wednesday morning before Kim leaves for South Korea later in the day. He arrived from Los Angeles at Narita Airport on Tuesday afternoon.

Earlier Tuesday, the South Korean daily HANGUK ILBO reported from Los Angeles that Kim had decided to cooperate with a Japanese Government investigation into the 1973 abduction. Kim told South Korean reporters in Los Angeles on Monday that he had been visited by an official of the Japanese Consulate General on Sunday and had been asked to cooperate with the Japanese investigation.

"Although the incident happened a while ago, I decided to accept the Japanese Government's request since there is the dimension of making clear the correct facts," Kim told reporters.

Kim was leader of the opposition Democratic Party until he retired from politics after his defeat in last December's presidential election. A lifetime political dissident who nearly defeated Pak Chong-hui in the 1971 presidential election, Kim was abducted from the Grand Palace Hotel in Tokyo by a group of unidentified men on August 8, 1973.

The incident sparked an international outcry, with the media and opposition legislators labeling it an attempt to silence Kim, who had been campaigning in Japan against Pak's authoritarian rule.

Bilateral relations became strained when Japanese police discovered the fingerprints of an official of the South Korean Embassy in Tokyo in the room from which Kim was abducted.

In a November 1973 "political settlement" between the two governments, the kidnapping was blamed on the official, who was removed from his post, and the Pak government agreed not to prosecute Kim, a promise it failed to keep. Kim was put on trial and sentenced to death, but the sentence was commuted later.

Police Seek Further Questioning

OW1310091993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0639 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 13 KYODO—Police investigators had a brief interview Wednesday [13 October] with former South Korean dissident Kim Tae-chung about his abduction from a Tokyo hotel 20 years ago and indicated they would like to question him some more. Kim said before the session that if Japanese police seriously want to question him about the kidnapping they should come to Seoul.

The four officers of the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department refused to comment on the contents of their hourlong meeting with Kim at a hotel near Narita airport. Police had planned to question Kim on the details surrounding his kidnapping from the Hotel Grand Palace on August 8, 1973, his return to South Korea and his reappearance five days later in Seoul.

"The time for questioning was too short for developing the investigation we wanted," a senior police officer said. The meeting was held in a relaxed atmosphere and Kim was cooperative, police sources said.

"Since I am only here on a transit visa, the questioning and answers will be limited," said Kim, 67, who arrived in Japan on Tuesday afternoon from Los Angeles and is scheduled to leave for Seoul on Wednesday evening.

Kim delivered a victim's statement to police, after having told reporters, "this incident was an infringement on Japan's sovereignty and Japan should carry out its investigation" whether he delivered a victim's statement or not.

Japanese police in the past had requested Kim answer their questions about the incident but he had refused to do so to show his dissatisfaction with the "political settlement" reached by Tokyo and Seoul over the abduction.

Following the kidnapping of Kim, long an opponent of then President Pak Chong-hui, relations between Japan and South Korea became strained when police discovered the fingerprints of Kim Tong- wun, a secretary at the South Korean Embassy in Tokyo, in the hotel room where the abduction took place.

South Korea's prime minister at the time, Kim Chongpil, apologized to the Japanese Government and the kidnapping was blamed on the embassy official, who was removed from his post.

As part of the "political settlement," the Pak government pledged not to prosecute Kim but later reneged on the promise and the opposition leader was arraigned.

The former Korean Central Intelligence Agency (KCIA) is generally believed to have been behind the kidnapping. The charismatic Kim led a number of opposition parties over a political career that spanned more than three decades and nearly defeated Pak in the 1971

presidential election, despite alleged massive fraud and government manipulation of the election. Kim, who most recently led the Democratic Party, retired from politics after his loss to opposition ally and later political rival Kim Yong-sam in last December's presidential election.

Kim Tae-chung Ends Visit

OW1310112993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0955 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Narita, Chiba Pref. [prefecture], Oct. 13 KYODO—Former South Korean opposition leader Kim Tae-chung left Narita airport for home on Wednesday [13 October] evening after earlier answering questions for police about his 1973 abduction from a Tokyo hotel. Kim, 67, who retired from political life last December after his third defeat in a South Korean presidential election, is completing a global tour that took him to Russia, Germany and the United States. On Wednesday morning, Kim held an hour-long session with investigators from the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department answering questions on his kidnapping on August 8, 1973, from the Hotel Grand Palace.

It is generally believed that the kidnapping was masterminded by the Korean Central Intelligence Agency in order to silence Kim, who had been a staunch critic of the authoritarian Pak Chong-hui regime. The organization was renamed later as the Agency for National Security Planning.

Cited on Former Envoy's Photo

OW1410062793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0317 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 14 KYODO—Former South Korean opposition leader Kim Tae-chung told Tokyo police the photo they showed him of a former South Korean Embassy official resembles one of the men who abducted him in 1973 from a Tokyo hotel, well-informed sources said Thursday [14 October]. Kim reportedly said that the photo of Kim Tong-un, a first secretary at the South Korean Embassy in Tokyo 20 years ago, "resembles that of a man at the scene of the crime."

Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department investigators questioned Kim at a hotel near Narita Airport on Wednesday but have refused to comment on the contents of the hour long session. Kim agreed to the questioning during a one-day stopover on his return trip to South Korea from the United States.

Kim Tong-un was asked by MPD investigators in September 1973 to present himself for questioning as a suspect in the case. The South Korean Government of then president Pak Chong-hui, however, ordered the secretary back to Seoul.

The secretary's fingerprints had been discovered by Japanese police at the Hotel Grand Palace after the

August 8, 1973 kidnapping and one witness testified to seeing him get on an elevator with Kim Tae-chung.

In November 1973, the South Korean and Japanese Governments reached "a political settlement" to the incident by blaming Kim Tong-un as a single abductor.

In July 1975, the Seoul Government decided not to prosecute Kim Tong-un, dismissed him from his post, and closed the case.

Keidanren To Send Mission to South Korea

OW1110072893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0707 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 11 KYODO—Japan's Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) will send a business mission to South Korea on Wednesday for a regular meeting with its South Korean counterpart, the Federation of Korean Industries (FKI), officials said Monday [11 October]. The 11-member delegation, headed by Keidanren chief Gaishi Hiraiwa, is expected to discuss with the FKI the trade imbalance between the two countries. In 1992, South Korea posted a 7.86 billion dollar trade deficit with Japan.

Keidanren officials, meanwhile, said they expect the meeting will pave the way for closer bilateral ties focusing on increased cooperation and joint ventures under the new administration of South Korean President Kim Yong-sam, who places priority on bilateral economic issues. The mission will meet with Kim on Thursday, and move on to Cheju Island to meet with the FKI on Friday. The trip will last four days.

Russian First Deputy Premier on Trade Insurance OW1410025693 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japanese 14 Oct 93 Morning Edition

[Received via Nikkei Telecom Database]

[Text] Yegor Gaydar, Russian first deputy premier, told a number of reporters after the joint news conference by the Japanese and Russian leaders at the State Guest House on the afternoon of 13 October: "I would like to ask Japan to remove barriers to private sector economic exchanges." While Gaydar admitted the need for self-help efforts on the part of Russia, saying "I understand there is high risk in investing in Russia because of the instability of the Russian economy," he also asked the Japanese Government to ease the requirements for applying for trade insurance for private companies' investments in Russia.

First Deputy Premier Gaydar pointed out: "The period for Russia to receive humanitarian aid is over. We ourselves have to assume responsibility for the rehabilitation of our domestic economy." In terms of economic cooperation between Japan and Russia, he expressed hope, particularly for the expansion of investments to

help develop domestic industries in Russia. Specifically, he mentioned the development of offshore oilfields in Sakhalin.

MITI To Send Economic Mission to Eastern Russia

OW1310083793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0729 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 13 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) will send an economic survey mission Friday [15 October] to the Russian Far East and eastern Siberia to attend an investment seminar and exchange views with Russian officials, ministry officials said Wednesday. The 42-member mission, comprising government officials and businessmen, will take part in the three-day seminar in Irkutsk, Siberia, which opens Monday. The event is one of several specific projects agreed to at the second "West-East" trade ministers' conference held in Tokyo in April, the officials said.

The Russian Ministry of the Economy plans to hold similar seminars in 11 cities in the republic in line with the agreement, the first of which took place in September, with another scheduled for November. Participants in the Irkutsk seminar will include Russian First Deputy Prime Minister Yegor Gaydar and External Economic Relations Minister Oleg Davydov, the officials said.

Invited nations include Japan, the United States, Canada, Germany, Britain, France, China and South Korea. The Japanese mission will also stop over in Khabarovsk, Siberia, for talks with the state government before returning to Tokyo on October 22, they said.

Minister Decides on New Ambassador to Russia OW0910002993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0012 GMT 9 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 9 KYODO—Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata has decided to name Ambassador to Italy Koji Watanabe as next ambassador to Russia, replacing Sumio Edamura by December, Foreign Ministry sources said Friday [8 October]. Watanabe, 59, who entered the ministry in 1956, has also served as ambassador to Saudi Arabia and deputy foreign minister in charge of economic affairs.

LDP Secretary General Leaves for Visit to PRC OW0910024693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0232 GMT 9 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 9 KYODO—Yoshiro Mori, secretary general of the Liberal Democratic Party, left here for Beijing Saturday [9 October] for a three-day visit. The opposition party legislator will visit China at the invitation of the China-Japan Friendship Association and hopes to meet General Secretary Jiang Zemin during the stay, party officials said.

Farm Minister: Country To Import U.S. Rice
OW1110132093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1310 GMT
11 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 11 KYODO—Japan's farm minister on Monday [11 October] told U.S. Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy that Japan will import a "considerable amount" of rice from the United States in an emergency step to cope with a poor harvest, government officials said. Eijiro Hata, minister of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, stressed, however, that the imports will not lead to opening the Japanese rice market, farm ministry officials said.

Espy asked Hata to continue rice imports from the U.S. in the future, calling for liberalization of Japan's closed rice market. The U.S. has great interest in Japan's rice imports, Espy was quoted as saying.

Hata emphasized that the imports are an emergency measure, adding the move does not signal any change in Japan's stance in the Uruguay Round of global trade talks.

Japan, which normally bans rice imports to protect its politically powerful farmers, recently announced emergency rice imports in the face of a wretched harvest due to bad weather.

On the seven-year-old trade negotiations being held under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, Espy urged Japan to accept the so-called tariffication scheme, under which nontariff barriers will be converted into tariffs for future reduction. Many countries support the proposal, Espy told Hata. But Hata refused to budge on the issue, and argued that accepting the scheme is politically difficult. The two only agreed to continue seeking an acceptable concession by the December 15 deadline for the round.

Espy also asked Hata to reduce tariffs on farm imports, but Hata made no commitment, saying there are difficult problems for each import item, the officials said.

Government To Market Imported Rice in Feb

OW1310084793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0833 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 13 KYODO—The food agency has decided to sell rice it will import for everyday consumption to wholesalers in February at the earliest, agency sources said Wednesday [13 October]. The sources said the planned supplies include some of the foreign rice for processing which will arrive in Japan in early November. To make up for the shortfall in supplies of rice for everyday consumption, the government also plans to import rice early next year in addition to 200,000 tons of rice it has already announced it will import by the end of the year for processing.

The rice imports, the first in nine years, are designed to cope with the worst harvest in the postwar period due to

the cold and wet summer. The sources said earlier speculation was that supplies of imported rice for everyday use will start around March. They said the timing was advanced because of less-than-expected domestically-produced rice in government warehouses.

Every year, the government directly buys rice from producers and sells it at a discount to consumers. Rice growers are also allowed to put their produce on the market on their own under government-approved channels. The agency expects supplies of government-traded rice from November to February next year to fall sharply to about 300,000 tons, compared with 540,000 tons a year earlier.

Government Denies End of Rice Import Ban

OW1410085293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0827 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 14 KYODO—The Japanese Government denied reports Thursday [14 October] that it has agreed to eventually open its rice market by replacing its long-standing import ban with tariffs.

"It is not true that we have agreed with America to open the rice market," Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura told reporters after the vernacular daily MAINICHI SHIMBUN and the South Korean newspaper TONG-A ILBO reported a bilateral breakthrough. The MAINICHI said in its afternoon edition that Farm Minister Eijiro Hata and U.S. Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy, who visited Tokyo this week, agreed on a six-year moratorium on the tariffication scheme, during which Japan would accept "minimum access" by importing 3 to 8 percent of its domestic demand. But Takemura, the chief government spokesman, told a news conference, "Japan, in the future as now, will negotiate with the aim of not accepting comprehensive tariffication."

Such a tariff scheme was proposed in December 1991 by the then head of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), Arthur Dunkel. He urged that all nontariff barriers be replaced with tariffs and called for minimum imports of 3 percent of domestic consumption. Despite a planned emergency rice import after bad summer weather devastated this year's crop, Japan has rejected opening the market of its staple grain, citing "food security."

The issue is one of the stumbling blocks to completion of the seven-year-old global trade talks, along with a farm trade dispute between the U.S. and the European Community (EC).

Foreign Ministry officials also denied the reported agreement to eventually open Japan's rice market by replacing its longstanding import ban with tariffs.

"There's no such agreement," said a top ministry official. Another senior ministry official said the negotiations are indeed coming to a final stage and various options are possible. But the official quickly added the reported six-year moratorium on the tariffication scheme, during which Japan would accept "minimum access" by importing 3 to 8 percent of its domestic demand, is not one of the options Japan is considering.

The coalition government of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa hurriedly called a meeting Thursday to reaffirm Japan's policy against the opening of the rice market. Kazuo Ogura, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Economic Affairs Bureau, denied the reports as "total unfounded." Vice Agriculture Minister Akio Kyoya also described the reports as "groundless."

Food Agency on Sources of Imported Rice

OW1410125393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1237 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 14 KYODO—Japan will import a total of 200,000 tons of rice this year from China, Taiwan, Thailand and the United States, a Food Agency official told KYODO NEWS SERVICE on Thursday [14 October]. The government decided last month to import the rice in the wake of the worst postwar rice harvest following a cool and wet summer. The rice imports will be the first since 1984 when Japan bought 150,000 tons from South Korea after a poor harvest, also caused by bad weather.

Of the total imports, those from Taiwan and the U.S. will be sold for staple food rather than for processed foods, the agency official said on condition of anonymity. The agency had said it would sell all the imports for use in processed foods, not for staple use. The official said the government plans to import 133,000 tons from Thailand in November, and 50,000 tons from Taiwan, 14,000 tons from the U.S. and 3,000 tons from China in December.

Under the Food Control Law, the government controls production and distribution of rice and bans commercial imports.

Sony Chairman Urges Open Rice Market

OW0910054693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0530 GMT 9 Oct 93

[Text] Los Angeles, Oct. 8 KYODO—Akio Morita, chairman of Sony Corp., said Friday [8 October] Japan's emergency rice imports may lead the way to a full opening of the country's rice market. Morita said that in his personal opinion there is a national consensus in Japan that the ongoing Uruguay Round of world trade talks must be brought to a successful conclusion. Morita, who also is a senior official of the powerful Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), said Japan is required to take a bold step toward this goal. He called on the United States and France to take reciprocal action.

Rally Held in Opposition to Open Rice Market OW1310023393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0219 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 13 KYODO—About 3,000 farmers and agricultural cooperative officials from across the nation on Wednesday [13 October] staged a large-scale rally at Tokyo's Hibiya Park to oppose the opening of Japan's rice market. The Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives organized the meeting after the government last month announced emergency rice imports to cope with the worst rice harvest in the postwar period. The government said Japan will import 200,000 tons of rice for processed foods by the end of this year.

Those at the gathering declared their resolve to maintain self-sustenance of rice in Japan and to overcome critical conditions of the nation's agriculture following reports of poor harvests throughout the country. The poor rice harvest is due to the unusually cool and wet summer. During the meeting they listened to a report about the progress of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks in which Japan is pressed to replace a rice import ban with tariffication.

Government To Pay Rice Farmers Higher Subsidies

OW0910084293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0812 GMT 9 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 9 KYODO—Farmers growing rice to be purchased by the government will receive bigger subsidies beginning in the current fiscal year, government officials said Saturday [9 October]. The officials said the government reached the decision to increase inventories and promote distribution of rice for processing.

Agricultural cooperatives collecting rice for the government will be offered a subsidy of 60 yen per 60 kilograms, they said. Farmers who deliver more than two-thirds of their total rice harvest to the government will be given an extra 190 yen per 60 kilograms, while those with more than one-third will receive 90 yen per 60 kilograms, they said.

Rice is under government control and it purchases the product from farmers at prices higher than it sells to consumers. The government's purchase price, however, is still lower than that on the market.

In the wake of a poor harvest this year, farmers are reluctant to sell rice to the government because of low profits. In December last year, the government set aside a total of 50 billion yen in subsidies to farmers over a three-year period, starting in fiscal 1993. The figure was later raised, and the amount for fiscal 1993, which began April 1, was set at 33.6 billion yen, the officials said.

Slow Progress Reported in Rice Purchases

OW1410103593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1021 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 14 KYODO—Progress has been slow in government purchases of the 1993 rice crop from farmers as the volume of rice bought to date is less than one-third that of the year-earlier level, Farm Ministry officials said Thursday [14 October]. According to the officials, the Food Agency purchased about 1.01 million tons of rice as of Tuesday, falling well below a target of four million tons by the end of this month and indicating that a stable rice supply might be jeopardized despite a planned emergency import.

The development came against the backdrop of the worst postwar rice harvest due to the cool and wet summer, which forced the government to decide last month to import rice this year for the first time since 1984.

Under the Food Control Law, the government controls production and distribution of rice and used to buy all the rice crop but now purchases less than one-fifth and oversees the independent distribution of a further 40 percent.

The remainder is viewed as being consumed by farmers themselves but some is distributed in a gray market outside government channels.

Rice wholesalers and retailers said the slow progress in government purchases of the rice crop signals a move among farmers to sell their rice through independent distribution channels and the gray market as rice prices distributed on such routes are much higher than prices at which the government purchase.

Wholesalers Seek Sale of Government Rice Stock OW0910095893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0851 GMT 9 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 9 KYODO—Rice wholesalers appealed to the government Saturday [9 October] to release rice in stock to ease the worsening supply shortage resulting from a very bad harvest. The distributors said more than 300,000 tons of rice are under government control.

Wholesalers in Osaka complained their daily supplies have dwindled to less than 10 percent of the usual 600 tons, sending consumers rushing to buy rice in large quantities. The volume of rice traded on markets in Tokyo and Osaka has also plummeted, boosting prices nearly 30 percent over the past month, they said.

The demand-supply situation has become tight across the nation, and the situation is particularly bad in the two major cities and the northeastern Tohoku region, rice retailers in Tokyo said. Sake brewers also demanded Friday that the government release rice for them as soon as possible. Government To Suspend Rice Auctions, Fix Prices
OW1310130193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1250 GMT
13 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 13 KYODO—The Food Agency said Wednesday [13 October] it will order wholesalers to suspend auctions for rice from November and fix wholesale prices to ensure stable supplies to consumers in the wake of the worst postwar rice harvest this year.

The agency said prices of rice sold to consumers through a government-monitored independent distribution channel will be fixed from Thursday at 7.0 percent higher than the standard prices set on the weighted average of successful bidding prices in the past three years. The move is expected to lead to over 10 percent rise in retail prices of so-called "jishu-ryutsu mai" rice.

Under the food cost old system, the government purchases rice from growers at prices higher than it sells to consumers. It also bans commercial rice imports. The government currently buys less than a fifth of the rice crop and oversees the independent distribution of a further 40 percent.

The remaining 40 percent shows up in the books as being eaten by rice growers themselves, but some is distributed in a grey market outside government channels.

The wholesalers' group said it will accept the government order for suspension of rice auctions provided the government takes steps for fair distribution and stable supplies of rice to consumers. The agency said it will tighten controls on distribution of rice in each prefecture and closely monitor price movements.

Hosokawa Rejects Call on Corruption Clause

OW1310140793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1359 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 13 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa on Wednesday [13 October] rejected an opposition call to include junior campaign staff members in a proposed law against vote-buying that would nullify a candidate's election victory. Hosokawa said he supports the conclusion of the electoral system council, which expressed reservations about the idea. He was responding to a question at a House of Representatives plenary session from the Liberal Democratic Party's Okiharu Yasuoka, who urged the government to include the clause in a package of political and electoral reform bills.

Yasuoka urged the government to boost the effectiveness of the proposed law's "guilt-by-association" system, under which election victories would be nullified if candidates' family members, campaign managers or secretaries are convicted of buying votes. He proposed including temporarily hired rank-and-file campaign staffers on the list of associates for whose election law violations the candidates would be held criminally prosecutable.

Hosokawa reminded the session that the council warned in a report to former Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu that such a law would require Japan to speed up its trial proceedings against violators of the public offices election law. However, the prime minister vowed to "consider the proposal with the goal of creating the effective system to prevent corruption."

Yasuoka also said the government-proposed electoral system combining single-seat districts and proportional representation might tempt legislators to intensify vote-buying practices.

Yasuoka said he had engaged in "money-dominated election campaigns," in a former single-seat constituency against an independent opponent and felt remorse over it. He said the proposed system comprising 250 single-seat districts might tempt candidates to spend big unless the government introduced the stricter law.

Yasuoka said candidates from parties of the ruling coalition should not fight the next election by shelving differences in their ideologies and policies. If they did so, such candidates would be tempted to spend lavishly before and during the election campaign to gain voters' favor, he said.

"Even under the proposed electoral system, the power of money would rage as in the multiseat constituency system," under which candidates from the same party have tried to outspend each other, he said.

Hosokawa said, "if parties contended the election while keeping policies ambiguous, such parties would naturally suffer a severe electoral verdict from the public."

Government To Set Criteria for Public Spending OW1210043193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0417 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 12 KYODO—A government fiscal advisory panel will work out by the end of November criteria to review budgetary allocation for public works projects, a Finance Ministry official said Tuesday [12 October]. The official made his remarks while briefing reporters on the first meeting of a panel on public works spending, a subcommittee of the Fiscal System Council and an adviser to the finance minister.

The panel is designed to correct what many describe as a rigid allocation system for public works investment under Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa's policy of improving living standards of the Japanese people.

Panelists agreed to devise a framework for new criteria on November 26, the day of the panel's fifth meeting, by taking into account various changes in Japan's economic and social conditions since the 1960s and reassessing the content of prospective public projects, the official said. The framework will contain "priority fields" in public spending, but it is unlikely to set specific numerical standards among each ministry and agency concerned, the official said.

Panelists agreed that new criteria will be reflected in the national budget for fiscal 1994 beginning next April, the official said, terming the restructure of budgetary allocation for public investment "the largest issue to be tackled in work to compile the fiscal 1994 budget."

In the current fiscal year, the government earmarked 8 trillion yen for public works projects, comprising 70 percent for the Construction Ministry, 20 percent for the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry and 10 percent for the Transport Ministry. The shares have hardly changed in years, apparently reflecting strong resistance from parties concerned that seek to maintain their vested interest.

Shimizu Chairman Resigns Following Indictment OW1210102493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1016 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 12 KYODO—The chairman of Shimizu Corp., the country's largest contractor, resigned Tuesday [12 October] following his indictment Monday on charges of bribing the former governor of Ibaraki Prefecture, company officials said Tuesday. Teruzo Yoshino, 75, has been charged with conspiring with two other Shimizu executives to give Fujio Takeuchi, the former governor, 10 million yen in bribes late last year in exchange for favorable treatment in bids for public works projects. Takeuchi, 75, also has been charged with taking a total of 55 million yen in bribes from another major builder, Hazama Corp.

Indicted Shizimu Executives Resign

OW1210105393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1040 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 12 KYODO—Two of the three executives of Shimizu Corp. resigned Tuesday [12 October] after being indicted Monday on charges of bribing the then governor of Ibaraki Prefecture to secure public works contracts, company officials said. The two who resigned were Teruzo Yoshino, 75, chairman of Shimizu, Japan's biggest construction company, and Hiroyuki Koyama, 67, its vice chairman. They were charged with giving 10 million yen to Fujio Takeuchi, governor at the time, late last year to buy his influence in the awarding of public works contracts by the Ibaraki Prefectural Government.

The company's board of directors accepted the resignations, the officials said.

Akikazu Matsumoto, 59, Shimizu's managing director, who has been indicted on a charge of conspiring with Yoshino and Koyama to bribe Takeuchi, also tendered his resignation, but the board has not yet accepted it, they said.

The Tokyo District Public Prosecutors Office arrested the three Shimizu officials last month.

Takeuchi, 75, has been charged with taking a total of 55 million yen in bribes from another major construction company, Hazama Corp. Two governors, two mayors and 21 construction company officials have been arrested since late June in a series of bribery scandals involving the nation's major construction firms.

Former Minister Fails To Declare Income

OW0910044293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0432 GMT 9 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 9 KYODO—Former Posts and Telecommunications Minister Hideo Watanabe failed to declare 130 million yen in income to the taxation authority over three years ended in 1992, sources close to the Tokyo Regional Taxation Bureau said Saturday [9 October]. Watanabe, 59, is likely to be assessed a penalty tax of some 80 million yen, the sources said.

The Tax Bureau believes Watanabe deposited the 130 million yen, originally given to him as "political donations," in bank accounts opened under other people's names, the sources said.

Political donations are tax-free, but if the money is not used for political activities, it must be declared as income subject to tax. The former minister told KYODO NEWS SERVICE he will file a revised declaration in accordance with the instruction of the taxation authority.

Watanabe said he did not totally agree with the instruction, but would pay the tax nonetheless.

"But I have to pay what I should pay," said Watanabe, who was posts and telecommunications minister from 1991 to December last year.

Until he lost in a general election in July, Watanabe was a Liberal Democratic Party member of the House of Representatives for six consecutive terms since 1976.

Gas Industry To Halt 'Contributions' to LDP OW1210144393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1420 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 12 KYODO—The Japan Gas Association will stop buying ads in Liberal Democratic Party publications because of criticism that the ads are thinly disguised political contributions, its chairman said Tuesday [12 October]. At a news conference, Hiroshi Watanabe offered apologies for actions that could be

"I will not ask for an excuse for what could be seen as a kind of political donations," Watanabe said.

construed as seeking political influence.

An affiliate of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) admitted last Friday it paid a total of 2.1 billion yen "in advertisement fees" to LDP publications on behalf of the Gas Association between fiscal 1980 and 1992. The Federation of Electric Power Companies was also reported to have paid a total of 2.5 billion yen in similar fees to LDP publications between fiscal 1990 and 1992. Utilities companies agreed in 1974 not to give political donations to any party. The LDP governed Japan for 38 years until this August.

Kohei Abe, chairman of the Federation of Electric Power Companies, will hold a press conference Wednesday to announce the industry organization will also phase out advertising in LDP publications.

Electric Industry To Stop Payments to LDP

OW1310112693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1056 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 13 KYODO—The organization of electric power firms said Wednesday [13 October] it will stop paying large sums of money in "advertising" fees to the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to avoid criticism that this is equivalent to making political donations.

Kohei Abe, chairman of the Federation of Electric Power Companies, told a press meeting, "I do not consider the payments as donations, but it is inviting misunderstanding from society and therefore it is undesirable (for the industry)."

The federation wants to stop such payments from now on, including those for the current fiscal year, he said.

The plan will formally be decided after approval at a meeting of the heads of electric power companies slated for Thursday next week, said Abe, who is also president of Chubu Electric Power Co.

In 1974, the federation declared its discontinuation of political donations. But recent reports revealed that the organization has paid a total of 2.5 billion yen over three years from the spring of 1990 as fees for placing advertisements in LDP publications. The Japan Gas Association, which has also been found to be paying a large amount of money to the LDP in a similar manner, said on Tuesday it would discontinue the practice.

Panel Begins Revision of Public Works Spending OW1210003893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0018 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 12 KYODO—A government fiscal advisory panel Tuesday [12 October] began to construct criterion for reviewing fund allocation of public works investment.

The Fiscal System Council, an adviser to the finance minister, seeks to compile a report on the subject by December.

Panel officials said the Finance Ministry will begin with explanations of the history of public works spending as well as present situations, including how much tax money is being spent. In the current fiscal year that began April 1, the government allocated 8 trillion yen for public works investment. Seventy percent went to the Construction Ministry, 20 percent went to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and 10 percent went to the Transport Ministry.

About a third of the money was to be used for construction and the repaying of roads and less than one-fifth for improving the sewage system.

The panel, in light of the fact that the share of allocation has hardly changed in years, is seeking to restructure the allocation so that the money will be efficiently used to improve living conditions amid tight fiscal conditions.

Survey Finds Public Works Bid Rules Lacking
OW1310074893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0323 GMT
13 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 13 KYODO—Nearly half of Japan's towns and villages have no competitive bidding standards for public works construction projects, a survey conducted by the government said Wednesday [13 October]. The Home Affairs Ministry and the Construction Ministry jointly carried out the nationwide survey on bidding systems among prefectural governments as well as cities, towns and villages. The survey, conducted between late July and early September, said only 30 percent of cities, towns and villages disclose bidding standards for public works construction projects.

Both the United States and the European Community (EC) have claimed that !apan's bidding system constitutes a market barrier for foreign companies. The ministries say they will decide by year's end on ways to improve the bidding system, officials said.

On the prefectural government level, all 47 governments except Wakayama and Ehime, establish bidding standards but only 23 of them disclose the standards, the survey said.

Although all of Japan's 12 biggest cities have bidding standards, only half of them announce the criteria. As for smaller cities, 77.9 percent have standards but only 31.0 percent disclose them, while 47.9 percent of towns and villages have standards with only 33.2 percent disclosing them. The survey showed smaller governments have a tendency not to establish and open bidding standards. [sentence as received]

Meanwhile, the Central Council on Construction Business, which Wednesday received the survey results, held a meeting to discuss Japan's current competitive bidding systems. The advisory panel to the construction minister also heard opinions from construction industry officials. Debate on Corruption in Construction Industry
OW1010031093

[Editorial Report] Tokyo Asahi Television Network in Japanese at 0110 GMT on 3 October, as part of its news magazine "Sunday Project" program beginning at 0100 GMT, carries a 25-minute live debate discussing corruption in the construction industry and among bureaucrats in local governments. Morihiko Hiramatsu, governor of Oita Prefecture, participates in the debate via remote hookup, while Tsutomu Hotta, former chief prosecutor known for his role in bringing then Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka to court in the so-called Lockheed scandal, and Makoto Utsumi, former deputy vice-minister for finance affairs, are in the Asahi studio in Tokyo. Commentator Soichiro Tawara acts as moderator.

The program begins by showing video footage of an interview with Tatsuya Suwa, who has worked in the construction industry and is also the author of a book entitled "Dango [consultation, meaning bid rigging] Is a Necessary Evil." Suwa says that dango practiced these days is different in nature from the dango of the past, noting that previously dango was conducted among bidding companies themselves. Recent scandals show, he says, that it is now being conducted between bidding companies and contract awarding offices or among Diet members representing the bidding companies.

At 1114 GMT, debate begins and moderator Tawara asks former prosecutor Hotta whether the election system is to blame for the graft scandals plaguing so many local governments.

Hotta says: "No, I don't see why so much money is needed in election campaigns. Rather than the system, it is the people. Some people want the money."

The topic moves on to morality. Tawara notes that Honma, the latest high-ranking bureaucrat to be jailed for accepting bribes, was elected governor of Miyagi Prefecture shortly after the Recruit scandal came into the open by telling the public he was a clean politician.

Tawara directs a question to Governor Hiramatsu at 1116 GMT, asking him if construction company people have ever approached him in an attempt to strike a deal. Hiramatsu says governors facing tough election races tend to be drawn to money, thereby suggesting the election system is to blame for the problem. He adds that in his own case, he has not had a tough race, and hence not much of a money problem.

Moderator Tawara disputes Hiramatsu's explanation that tough elections spoil candidates, and points out that Takeuchi of Ibaraki Prefecture and Honma of Miyagi Prefecture—the two governors recently arrested in bribery scandals— had been elected unopposed.

Governor Hiramatsu says they had probably had to bargain "so that no one would oppose them in the

elections," adding that the problem also involves the character and personality of the people involved.

Pressed by Tawara to be more specific, he admits that the current appointed bidder system is one problem. He says the yardstick by which bidders are appointed is obscure, but that efforts are now being made to improve the system.

"A better way of solving the problem would be to adopt an election system which does not require candidates to use money," says Hiramatsu. He says the national governors' conference will be taking up the issue of the bidding system.

At 1128 GMT, the discussion moves on to the Japanese custom of sending gifts to friends and acquaintances at holidays, and what should and should not be accepted. The participants agree that money—regardless of the amount—should not be accepted, while goods can be accepted if they are not excessive in value. They suggest common sense is the best judge of what is excessive.

The debate ends at 1135 GMT.

Shinseito's Ozawa on Economy, Trade, U.S. Ties OW1010001693

[Editorial Report] Tokyo TBS Television Network in Japanese at 0500 GMT on 9 October carries an 80-minute "Debate Special" program. It is moderated by noted commentator Tetsuya Chikushi, Hakuho University Professor Masayuki Fukuoka, and announcer Hitomi Kuwa, and the main guest is Shinseito Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa.

At 0515 GMT, after an opening report and comments, Keio University Professor Haruo Shimada interviews Ozawa on the current economic situation. Ozawa says the continuing recession is a sign of the saturation of Japan's rapid economic growth throughout the postwar period.

Ozawa adds: "We have to strengthen the economy so that people can make a living more easily at a time of slower economic growth. Since this is a time-consuming work, we must create tentative demands in the market with such measures as deregulation and tax reform."

Ozawa continues: "Although Japan is called a major economic power due to the size of the monetary flow in its domestic market, the nation's living standards are still only second or third class by the standards of the rest of the world. In this sense, there is room, for yet more public investment. We should be making large-scale social investments, which, in turn, will create considerable demand in the domestic market."

Regarding the GATT Uruguay Round talks and the Japan-U.S. framework talks, Ozawa stresses in a positive manner the need for Japanese concessions.

He says: "Japan has to take the initiative in the Uruguay Round and the Japan-U.S. talks. To adopt better positions in these negotiations, we should be taking action."

Asked if Japan should follow other nations if the United States and the EC reach an accord on farm trade in the Uruguay Round, Ozawa says Japan must hammer out a concession plan before any such settlement of the U.S.-EC discord.

He says: "Once they are ready to agree on the issue, there will be no place for Japan to hide. I think it would be too late to make concessions after any U.S.-EC accord has been reached. I am not calling for a complete liberalization of the rice market. What I am trying to say is that Japan cannot refuse the principle of free trade.

"I believe free trade can stand together with the interests of farmers and the nation's food security policy... GATT proposes tariffication as a way to achieve free trade, and Japan cannot refuse free trade. It would be wrong to try to postpone acceptance of the tariffication proposal until the very last moment. Rather, Japan should take the initiative."

Following on from this, Ozawa is asked about public demand for an income tax cut. He says: "I believe there should be a tax cut. Income tax should be cut by half. Since revenue from income tax amounts to about 21 trillion yen, an appropriate size for a tax cut would be about 10 to 15 trillion yen.

"For the time being, the government will have to issue deficit-covering bonds to cover the tax reduction, but ultimately the loss must be covered by increasing the rate of consumption tax."

At 0540 GMT, Tokyo University Associate Professor Akihiko Tanaka discusses with Ozawa his views on international affairs. He is first asked about the DPRK's nuclear development plans and China's resumption of nuclear weapons testing.

Ozawa says: "China's self-centered and hegemonyoriented attitudes have remained unchanged over the
last 5,000 years. Comments like this usually end up
getting me into trouble, though. (laughter) As far as
North Korea is concerned, I believe it will complete the
full development of nuclear arms. If the nation has no
intention of possessing nuclear arms, there has been no
need to cheat the United States over such a long period.
I believe they refuse nuclear inspections because they are
preparing to possess nuclear weapons. I have read
reports about North Korea's new missile which is
capable of reaching Japan. I think the Korean Peninsula
is a very dangerous place."

He is then asked about the importance of the U.S. military presence in Asia.

Ozawa says: "It is extremely important. If U.S. forces completely withdraw from Asia, the resulting power vacuum would create a very dangerous situation. I feel that even if a request has to be made, we have to make

them stay. In this sense, we should think about burdensharing in earnest. In addition to monetary issues, we have to show the right political attitude. As the United States is no longer as strong as it used to be, Americans may begin to question why they have to spend money to help other countries. If the nation again adopts the Monroe Doctrine, it would cause a lot of problems for Japan. So, we must encourage the United States to keep playing the starring role in the international community."

He is then asked about Japan's role in the United Nations.

Ozawa says: "Essentially, Japan is supposed to contribute to non-military activities of the United Nations. Japan would be better to focus on economic, cultural, and technological assistance. However, when everybody works together to remove obstacles to world order, Japan should not shy away from this and adopt a solitary attitude."

He is asked if he would like to see reinforcement of the Self-Defense Forces, SDF, to enable them to play a more positive role in United Nations work. Ozawa stresses: "Nobody in the world wants to see the Japanese military forces expanded; even the United States would not welcome an increase in Japan's military role. What I am trying to say is Japan has to take the same political posture with other nations. The United States will be happy if Japan takes the initiative on non-military issues, but, my belief is that as a true ally in maintaining peace, we should not be asked to play our role in certain specific fields alone. Therefore, I have never thought about reinforcing the SDF."

Businesses Intensifying Job-Cutting Efforts

OW0910091793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0803 GMT 9 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 9 KYODO—With no prospects of a business pickup in sight, major Japanese companies are reducing the work force as part of restructuring efforts, industry sources said Saturday [9 October]. Employment adjustments in such forms as transfers, reshuffling of personnel and voluntary retirements are popular among Japanese companies, known internationally for their lifelong employment system.

Rising jobless rates, though, combined with forecasts that employment adjustment will drag on, are spawning employment worries among Japanese workers, the sources noted.

Says Takeshi Nagano, president of the Japan Federation of Employers Association, "wage cuts may be necessary in 'shunto' (labor negotiations next spring) in order to ensure employment." In fact, employment adjustment is spreading rapidly in Japanese industry.

The automobile industry, hard hit by a sharp fall in domestic motor vehicle sales and the yen's steep appreciation in value against the U.S. dollar, is strengthening streamlining efforts. Nissan Motor Co., the second-largest automaker in Japan, has decided to cut 5,000 jobs by the end of March 1996 after closing its Zama factory in Kanagawa Prefecture near Tokyo. Other carmakers are also being forced to take similar action.

Meanwhile, the nation's "big six" steelmakers have begun a policy of giving employees extra days off, the first time since the 1986-87 recession caused by a strong yen.

NKK Corp. gave about 1,000 managers at the Keihin and Fukuyama steelworks extra days off from this month, and Sumitomo Metal Industries Ltd. applied the same kind of measure for all of its employees.

The consumer electronics industry is seeking "voluntary retirement" of older employees. By so doing, Fujitsu Ltd. plans to cut its work force from the present 56,000 to 50,000 by March 1995 while Hitachi Ltd. will cut its force from 82,000 to 80,000.

Toshiba Corp. intends to cut its labor force by 5,000 workers in the next five years and Victor Co. of Japan (JVC) plans to reduce jobs from 15,300 at present to 13,300 by September 1994.

Major commercial banks, known as city banks in Japan, are to substantially reduce next spring's hiring of new graduates.

The number of industrial sectors permitted to obtain subsidies under the unemployment insurance law in October stood at 187, exceeding the 165 posted in the strong yen-induced recession in May 1987. A total of 4,004,000 workers in these sectors receive such subsidies.

The LTCB institute of Research and Consulting Inc. (LTCBR), affiliated with the Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan, forecast that labor adjustment will persist until the middle of next year. The number of surplus workers is estimated at 1.7 million throughout the country, and a senior trade ministry official says employment adjustment will gather momentum from November. There is strong likelihood that Japan's jobless rate will come close to the May 1987 peak of 2.8 percent from the present 2.5 percent, industry sources say.

Correction to Hosokawa, Yeltsin News Briefing OW1410021393

The following correction pertains to the item subheadlined "Text' of News Conference," published in the 13 October East Asia DAILY REPORT, page 11:

Paragraph six in the first column should read:

[Unidentified news official] This is Vyacheslav Terekhov of INTERFAX. For the journalists present here, I would

like to say that a few days ago, President Yeltsin awarded Terekhov a medal of courage...

[Yeltsin, interrupting] An order of courage.

[Unidentified news official] An order for personal courage for taking part in the defense of democracy during the mutiny in Moscow.

[Terekhov] What were the... (clarifying speakers, correcting spelling of Terekhov's first name.)

North Korea

Analyst Urges IAEA To Act With 'Discretion' SK1410051593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0437 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 14 (KCNA)—Some officials of the United Nations Secretariat and the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] must act with discretion, mindful that if they persist in the political farce to stifle the DPRK, they will bring an irrevocable disgrace and setback to themselves, warns NODONG SINMUN today.

The analyst notes that conspirators who wormed their way into the international organisations concocted a "letter" of the U.N. secretary-general without his consent or signature and conveyed it at the recent 37th regular general assembly of the IAEA.

He further says:

Although the performers of the farce wanted to get something by abusing the name of the U.N. secretarygeneral, they only exposed themselves to public disgrace and lost a great deal.

They cannot evade the blame for insulting the U.N. secretary-general. With the concoction of the "letter," some officials of the U.N. Secretariat and the IAEA Secretariat fully recognize [words indistinct] the "will of the international community."

The IAEA has abandoned impartiality, objectivity and neutrality that are vital to its activities and turned into a plaything of some political impostors. Now it has no qualification and face to have dealings with the DPRK.

The authority of the IAEA has hit the bottom. Under this situation, no one can deny that the DPRK-USA talks is the best way of solving the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula.

Owing to their impure officials, the United Nations and the IAEA have left another disgraceful blot on their history.

The United Nations and the IAEA should make a bold decision and take measures to ferret out the criminals and expel them from their ranks.

Commentary Urges Nonintervention

SK1410000093 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1155 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Commentary by Kim Ho-sang: "A Mean Machination Drama of a Letter"]

[Text] The maneuvers of the Western reactionary forces scheming to strangle [apsal] our Republic with international political machinations [moryak] have been perpetrated more persistently and viciously. As has already been reported, the Atomic Power Industry minister of our country on 11 October issued a press statement denouncing some circles of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] and the UN Secretariat regarding the revelation that the letter by the UN secretary general delivered at the 37th conference of the IAEA was completely false and fabricated.

In the press statement, the minister noted that the UN secretary general's letter delivered at the 37th conference of the IAEA proved that the secretary general did not know the contents of the letter at all, that it was a completely false and fabricated document, and that it was a product of political machinations aimed at pressuring and strangling our Republic, and strongly urged the UN Secretariat and the IAEA, which should be impartial, objective, neutral, and truthful in dealing with international problems, not to repeat an act deviating from this requirement.

Our people condemn and denounce with surging indignation the political machination drama of some circles of the UN Secretariat and the IAEA attempting to put pressure on our country-a dignified UN member state—with the so-called letter of the UN secretary general, even using the state name of our country different from its proper state name. Truly, this international fraud drama is a political machination drama unprecedented in the half century history of the United Nations. It is an intolerable mockery and defilement to the world's progressive people who treasure justice and truth. This act, which has been committed by some forces of the IAEA in collusion with the insidious circles of the UN Secretariat in today's world that attaches greatest importance to international justice and morality with the 21st century around the corner, must be subject to mankind's curse and denunciation.

The UN secretary general's act defiles his office and disregards his authority and disregards the United Nations itself. This act is a wanton violation of the UN Charter. Therefore, the act committed by the IAEA is far from tolerable. The IAEA is no longer capable of carrying out its cause [kiguui myongbunul seulsu opke toeossumnida] because of the fabricated letter case.

As has been well known, our Republic has respected the IAEA demands to the utmost and has handled them with a broad mind. During the nonregular inspections that were made on eight occasions, our Republic acceded to their demands to the utmost, providing them with all

conveniences necessary for the inspections. Nevertheless, they treated us with bias and displayed impartiality by siding with the Western side, making even the brigandish demand for a special inspection.

When we opposed and rejected this demand, they even staged a farce of referring the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula to the UN Security Council. As was mentioned, at the 37th general meeting they fabricated the letter with the allegation that it represents the will of the international community and attempted to strangle our Republic militarily. This shows well the extent of the partiality of the IAEA and its rude behavior.

As is well known, we have had two rounds of talks with the United States to resolve the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula completely and at the source. At the second round of talks, we reached agreement with the United States on replacing our Republic's present graphite moderated reactors and associated nuclear facilities with light water moderated reactors. This was a very positive development.

Thus, at a time when the way was opened to resolve the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula, the IAEA staged a drama of a fabricated letter against public morals. This was an act against common sense proving that the IAEA can no longer carry out its mission and duty. The United Nations and all the international organizations under it should abide by objectivity, impartiality, and neutrality in dealing with international disputes without bias. This is the publicly acknowledged rule of international relations.

The IAEA's partiality to us is increasing with each passing day. Under the circumstances, it is clear that we cannot discuss problems with them. Facts show that the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula can only be resolved through negotiation between us and the United States—the parties concerned—in view of its cause and the seriousness of the problem. There cannot be any other way. Our Republic will, in the future as well, continue to make every effort to resolve the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula in the interest of peace and security in Asia and the world. The IAEA should not intervene in the resolution of the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula any more.

Daily on Creation of New Economic Order SK1210053893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0447 GMT 12 Oct 93

Urgent Demand of Times"—KCNA headline]

["To Establish New International Economic Order Is

[Text] Pyongyang, October 12 (KCNA)—A key to eliminating the phenomena of "the rich get ever richer and the poor poorer" in the world is to destroy the old international economic order and establish a new equitable international order, says NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today.

The article goes on:

The old international economic order which serves the imperialists in exploiting and plundering the peoples of developing countries by neo-colonialist methods is the main source that creates grave difficulties in the independent development of the developing countries and nourishes the phenomena of "the rich get ever richer and the poor poorer" worldwide.

Because of the one-sided system of international division of labour under the old international economic order, industries are predominantly concentrated on the developed countries, while the developing countries are failing to develop the industry properly, though they have rich natural resources and favourable economic conditions. The present financial and monetary system, one of the products of the old international economic order, in particular, serves the imperialists as an important means to financially and economically dominate, control and subjugate the developing countries. The imperialists say that their international financial and monetary system brings "benefits" to the developing countries. But they are raking up fabulous profits through high interest "loans" with strings attached to them in the name of "aid" and "cooperation", trying to take the economic arteries of these countries in their tight grip.

According to data, the foreign debts of the developing countries amounted to more than 1,340 billion dollars in 1992.

Through the old international economic order the Western countries have systematically raised the prices of their manufactured goods for export in the capitalist market while steadily cutting the prices of primary commodities of the developing countries.

The losses suffered by 46 most undeveloped countries due to plummeting prices of primary commodities in recent years stand at 225 billion dollars.

Facts show that the ever widening gap between the rich and the poor cannot be removed and the developing countries cannot liquidate economic backwardness and poverty and successfully achieve economic independence as long as the old international economic order is left intact.

Daily Criticizes Japan's 'Doctrine of Conquest' SK1310110193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1033 GMT 13 Oct 93

["Foolish Attempt To Justify Brigandish 'Doctrine of Conquest of Korea"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 13 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries an article by Prof. and Dr. Yi Chong-hyon on the foolish attempt of the Japanese reactionary rulers to justify the brigandish "doctrine of conquest of Korea."

The author says:

The "doctrine of conquest of Korea" that surfaced in the middle of the 19th century was literally a doctrine of conquest by force of arms.

Today the Japanese authorities are trying to conceal the aggressive nature of the doctrine. Its graphic expression is found in that they describe the brigandish doctrine distortedly in textbooks.

The argument that the notorious doctrine owed its origin to the closed-door policy of Korea is quite brigandish.

Even when the "doctrine of conquest of Korea" came to the fore in Japan and the Samurai got undisguised in their moves of overseas aggression, the then Korean Government did not break faith with Japan but provided Japanese merchants and diplomats with all conveniences on the basis of good neighbourhood as before so that they might not face any hindrance in their activities.

Japan, however, betrayed this faith of the Korean Government and constantly framed all sorts of plots to invade Korea.

The "doctrine of conquest of Korea" was wholly ascribable to the bellicose nature of the military feudalistic imperial government founded in 1868 and capitalism of Japan seeking to fatten through colonial domination and plunder of other countries.

In order to justify the "doctrine of conquest of Korea," the Japanese authorities are extolling its authors. Their ulterior intention is to whitewash their criminal aggression in the past, imbue militarism into the minds of young students and step up ideological and mental preparations for their overseas aggression in the future.

The Japanese authorities also describe only the Saigo Group expelled from the political arena as "advocates of the doctrine of conquest of Korea" and the Iwakura Group in power as "non-advocates." By doing so, they intend to create the impression that the responsibility for historical aggression on Korea rested with civilians, not with the Japanese Government authorities, and deny that the invasion of Korea was made by the Japanese Government authorities. This is, however, a foolish attempt.

Article Says Japanese 'Whitewash' Massacre SK0910113293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1041 GMT 9 Oct 93

["A Massacre by Japanese Imperialists Can Never Be Buried in Obscurity"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 9 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today runs an article headlined "Massacre by Japanese Imperialists Can Never Be Buried in Obscurity" by Dr. Won Chong-kyu.

The author says:

The Japanese authorities, far from apologising and compensating for the brutal massacre of Korean people by the Japanese imperialists, are revising history textbooks in a more crafty way to conceal and whitewash it.

The truth of the brutal massacre committed by the Japanese imperialists at the time of the March 1st uprising in 1919 can never be concealed or erased.

The beast-like Japanese imperialists burned 317 houses and killed more than 1,000 people at 15 villages in Suwon County, Kyonggi Province. For instance, they killed in cold blood more than 300 people at one time in Cheam-ri of Suwon County in April 1919. They even thrust a bayonet into a newborn baby and threv it into flames. They killed about 7,500 Koreans, injured more than 15,900 and arrested some 46,900 throughout Korea in the March-May period.

The Education Ministry of Japan is trying to gloss over the genocide at the time of the 1923 great earthquake in Kanto, Japan. The genocide was not caused casually by a false rumor but it was a purposeful operation by the Japanese Government. The principal culprits of the massacre of 23,000 Koreans in Japan were the Army, military police and police directed by the Japanese Government. The vigilance corps members and other hooligans were only accomplices.

By persistently distorting these historical facts, the Education Ministry of Japan seeks to shift the blame for the heinous crime against humanity—the massacre of more than one million guiltless people and patriots during Japan's illegal occupation of Korea for 41 years including the genocide at the time of the great earthquake in Kanto—on to civilians and rid the state of Japan of the blame.

Far from atoning for this historical crime, the Japanese imperialist murderers are misrepresenting it in text-books. This is little different from the desperate efforts of the then Japanese imperialists to conceal the massacre. This shows that Japanese militarism today is the same with Japanese imperialism of the past in nature.

The Japanese authorities intend to bring up the rising generation to be murderers and aggressors like the past imperialists in order to use them as a shock force in reinvasion.

Japan's attempt to repeat the shameful past is reckless. History will never pardon the shameless acts of the Japanese authorities.

Japan Urged To Stop Nuclear Arms Program SK1410115993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1042 GMT 14 Oct 93

["NODONG SINMUN on Myth About Japan Islands Being 'Unsinking Carrier'"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 14 (KCNA)—The myth that Japan islands is an "unsinking carrier" is not unquestionable. Japan must not forget the lesson of history in which it suffered a tragic disaster in World War II due to the arbitrariness and despotism of a handful of ruling quarters who were obsessed with the wild ambition for aggression and overseas expansion.

NODONG SINMUN today says this in a by-lined article headlined "Japan's nuclear policy threatening peace".

Recalling that the successive Japanese rulers including Sato and Nakasone claimed Japan's right to possess nuclear weapons, the article says:

While raising a terrific outcry over the suspicion of the "nuclear development" by the DPRK, a fiction, Japan is trying to complete its nuclear armament under that pretext.

Japan's nuclear technology and development of means of delivery of nuclear warheads have reached a world's level. It is a matter of time for Japan to produce nuclear weapons. It is not hard to imagine what disasters will befall the peoples in Asia and the rest of the world when the Japanese armed forces fly abroad with their nuclear wings spread. Japan must know that, if it uses nuclear weapons, it would be unable to go scot-free.

Japan's nuclear armament is creating a new obstacle also to the efforts of the international public demanding the total elimination of nuclear weapons. If Japan comes into possession of nuclear weapons, it will cause a whirlwind of nuclear arms race among many countries and, subsequently, it will bring dark clouds of nuclear war over mankind.

If Japan truly intends to make an international contribution to world peace and security, it should take the lead in the efforts for the universal and complete elimination of nuclear weapons. Japan must observe the three non-nuclear principles fixed by law, stop stockpiling quantities of plutonium and give up the nuclear armament program and, thus, show its will for denuclearization and peace in deeds.

It is high time Japan pondered over the nuclear problem and chose the right path to peace.

KCNA on ROK Group's Criticism of Mitterrand SK1410114793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1027 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 14 (KCNA)—The International Committee of Jurists for Democracy and Human Rights in South Korea released a statement on September 28 exposing the double-faced game of French President Mitterrand.

The statement recalled that Mitterrand, during his Seoul visit, described South Korea as the "most genuine country of the free world in Asia," saying that "democracy has reappeared and strengthened" there.

The statement said:

"The committee is surprised at the fact that France which had been so vociferous about the human rights problem closed its eyes to the random arrest of democratic figures on the charge of the violation of the notorious 'national security law' in South Korea.

"And it expresses bitter resentment at the fact that Mitterrand twisted even the historical fact, claiming that South Korea which unleashed a brutal war of aggression against the North in the 1950s fought to defend freedom."

The statement further said:

"We know that before he took power, Mitterrand visited North Korea and promised it to try hard for the establishment of diplomatic relations with it, if he became president.

"The Mitterrand government, however, has not made any efforts to this end and, on the contrary, is now charging the North with the 'nuclear problem', crying over 'proliferation of mass destruction weapons'.

"This is an act going against the trend of the present situation in which the DPRK-U.S. joint statement was published and a double-faced game of France which has sold nuclear weapons to Israel and other countries from ten years ago in violation of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

"The 'defence of human rights' advocated by big powers is nothing but a camouflage for their insignificant economic interests."

Party Official Meets Foreign Party Delegates SK1410043893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0416

GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 14 (KCNA)—Hwang Changyop, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, on October 13 met and had friendly conversations respectively with the delegation of the Slovak Communist Party headed by Vice-Chairman of its Central Committee Tibor Keckes; Oyono Dieudonne, counselor of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Rally of Cameroon; and Ilboudo Alain Richard, member of the National Executive Bureau and secretary of the organisation for People's Democracy-Labour Movement of Burkina Faso.

The vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Slovak Communist Party said that he had come to know well about the exploits performed by the Workers' Party and people of Korea under the leadership of respected Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il.

During my stay, I was struck with admiration at the might of the Korean people who are united, he said, adding: The great achievements made by the Korean people in the revolution and construction are catching the admiration of the progressive mankind.

The counselor of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Rally of Cameroon actively supported the proposals for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea advanced by President Kim Il-song.

The secretary of the organisation for People's Democracy-Labour Movement of Burkina Faso said that during his visit, he had obtained a good understanding of the essence of Korean-style socialism. Korean socialism is a model and example of the progressive peoples, he added.

He further said:

Korea is a country which has succeeded in building socialism and a bulwark of socialism, and the experience of the Workers' Party of Korea has opened up a vista for victory of socialism on a world-wide scale.

Pointing out that he witnessed the reality of divided Korea at first hand, he expressed the belief that Korea will certainly be reunified.

Central Committee Replies to Foreign Parties SK1410043693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0410 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 14 (KCNA)—The C.C. [Central Committee] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] sent messages to parties and party leaders of various countries in reply to their messages of greetings on the occasion of the 45th founding anniversary of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The C.C., WPK replied to the C.C., the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus; General Secretary Farouk Dahrouj of the C.C., Communist Party of Lebanon; General Secretary Yacob Zayadine of the C.C., Communist Party of Jordan; Secretary General Feliciano Salomao Gundana of the C.C., Liberation Front Party of Mozambique; the Central Executive Committee of the People's National Congress of Guyana; General Secretary Rene Leon Mauge Mosquera of the C.C., Communist Party of Ecuador; and General Secretary Peter Symon of the C.C., Socialist Party of Australia.

The C.C., WPK expressed thanks to them for their congratulations on the 45th DPRK founding anniversary.

The messages expressed the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the WPK and these parties would further strengthen and develop in the future in accordance with the idea of independence, peace and friendship.

PRC Envoy, Officials Help Harvest Rice

SK0910010093 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Qiao Zonghuai, PRC Ambassador to our country, and his embassy officials helped in rice harvesting at the Korea-China Friendship Paegam Cooperative Farm on 8 October. The guests harvested rice at paddies of the first work unit with the farmers who are accelerating rice harvesting at the final stage with happiness to achieve a bumper crop this year by upholding the party's agriculture-first policy.

Bangladesh Party Sends Letter of Thanks

To Kim Il-song

SK1410053893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0456 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 14 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song received a letter of thanks sent on October 11 by Rashed Khan Menon, general secretary of the Central Committee, the Workers Party of Bangladesh, prior to his departure from Korea.

In the letter Rashed Khan Menon says he is grateful to President Kim Il-song for having received them and given valuable teachings on maintaining independence in all domains including the party's line, economic development and state relations.

He expresses particular thanks to the president for having paid deep attention to his party which is undergoing difficulties due to the negative impact of the collapse of the Soviet Union on the international communist movement and due to the propaganda offensive of the West.

Expressing the belief that Korea will demonstrate to the whole world that socialism will emerge victorious not only for the present but forever in the future under the wise guidance of President Kim Il-song, he manifests his party's support for the cause of the Korean revolution.

He wishes President Kim Il-song a long life in good health.

To Kim-Chong-il

SK1410053993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0459 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 14 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a letter of thanks sent Monday by Rashed Khan Menon, general secretary of the Central Committee, Workers' Party of Bangladesh, prior to his departure from Korea.

Extending warm greetings to Comrade Kim Chong-il who is resolutely struggling against all abuses of socialism, Rashed Khan Menon in the letter expresses the firm belief that the Workers' Party of Korea under

his wise leadership will remain as an impregnable bulwark in the struggle to realize the socialist ideal.

The single-hearted unity of the leader, the party and the masses achieved in Korea under the wise guidance of the dear leader is a great achievement of the socialist movement, he says, adding: "This will be greatly helpful to solving many problems facing us in connection with the frustration of socialism in the world."

He wishes Comrade Kim Chong-il a long life in good health.

Italian Socialist Movement Group Arrives

SK0910152693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1508 GMT 9 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 9 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Movement for Peace and Socialism of Italy headed by General Secretary of its Central Committee Roberto Gabriele arrived here today.

It was met at the airport by Pak Kyong-son, vice-director of a department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Reception Held

SK1010100393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0833 GMT 10 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 10 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] hosted a reception Saturday for the delegation of the Movement for Peace and Socialism of Italy on a visit to Korea.

Speaking at the reception, Kim Yong-sun, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, said:

"We highly appreciate the stand and efforts of your movement to oppose the interests of monopoly capital, dismantle foreign military bases, ensure peace and security of Europe and the rest of the world by building a nuclear-free zone and defend, strengthen and develop the common cause of socialism, and extend firm support and solidarity to it.

"Socialism is an ideal of mankind and the trend of history toward socialism cannot be blocked with anything. Our party will in future, too, remain faithful to the common cause of socialism to the end in the spirit of the Pyongyang declaration and further strengthen its bonds of friendship and solidarity with the Movement for Peace and Socialism of Italy on this road."

Head of the delegation Roberto Gabriele, general secretary of the Central Committee, the Movement for Peace and Socialism of Italy, in his speech warmly congratulated the Workers' Party of Korea on the 48th anniversary of its founding. "Under the complicated world situation, the WPK is defending the cause of socialism unswervingly," he noted, and said: "The example of the WPK struggling for the accomplishment of the socialist cause is a great inspiration not only to our movement but also to the world communists and revolutionaries."

Stressing that it is very important to develop the friendly relations between the two parties under the complicated world situation, he said: "Through our current visit we will learn more from the experience of the WPK."

Workers' Party Holds Talks

SK1110060393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0538 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 11 (KCNA)—Talks were held between the delegations of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and the Movement for Peace and Socialism of Italy at the Mansudae Assembly Hall Sunday.

Present at the talks on the Korean side were Alternate Politburo Member and Secretary Kim Yong-sun and Vice-Director of a Department Pak Kyong-son of the C.C. [Central Committee], the WPK and other officials concerned, and on the opposite side the delegation of the movement for peace and socialism of Italy led by general secretary of its Central Committee Roberto Gabriele.

Both sides at the talks exchanged views on further developing relations between the two parties and on a series of matters of common concern.

Ohe talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Kim Il-song Receives Delegation

SK1410120393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1044 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 14 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received a delegation of the Movement for Peace and Socialism of Italy led by general secretary of its Central Committee Roberto Gabriele on a visit to Korea.

Present on the occasion were Kim Yong-sun, alternate Politburo member and secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], and Pak Kyong-son, vice-director of a department of the C.C., the WPK.

President Kim Il-song had a talk with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

He arranged a luncheon for them.

Djibouti Government Delegation Arrives

SK0910214693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1511 GMT 9 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 9 (KCNA)—Djibouti Government delegation ied by Foreign Minister Abdou Balad Mohanned arrived here today.

It was met at the airport by Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam and officials concerned.

Government Hosts Reception

SK1010101093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0839 GMT 10 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 10 (KCNA)—The DPRK Government arranged a party on October 9 for the Djibouti Government delegation on a visit to Korea.

Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam in his speech said: "Today the Djibouti people under the leadership of esteemed President Hassan Gouled Aptidon are making active efforts to consolidate the independence of the country and achieve national reconciliation and unity and prosperity of the country." He noted, among other things, that the Djibouti Government, pursuing the non-aligned policy externally, is striving to make closer its relations with the neighbouring countries and achieve the stability and common prosperity of the Horn of Africa.

"We wish the Djibouti Government and people greater success in their future work of building a new society," he said, and added:

"Our people will make every effort to further consolidate the friendly and cooperative relations with the friendly Djibouti people in conformity with the idea of external policy of independence, peace and friendship".

Foreign Minister (Balad) Abdou Mohammed, head of the delegation, in his speech said: "We respect the principle of independence. All the people have the capacity to solve their problems by their own efforts. It is our principle to oppose a country's interference in another's internal affairs."

Supporting "10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country", the three principles and the five-point policy for national reunification set forth by the great leader President Kim Il-song, he said that the peoples of the two countries should cooperate with each other and develop their friendly and cooperative relations.

"The Korean people are a brave and industrious people and are achieving their development in stability", he noted, adding: "The Djibouti people want to learn from the achievements and experience of the Korean people."

Premier Meets With Delegation

SK1110062393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0552 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 11 (KCNA)—Premier of the Administration Council Kang Song-san met and had a friendly talk with the visiting Djiboutian Government delegation led by Foreign Minister Abdou Block Abdou at the Mansudae Assembly Hall Sunday.

The foreign minister said that he had watched with keen interest Korea which was developing in accordance with a great idea. "Djibouti, an independent country, attaches importance to the development of friendly relations with Korea with strong independence," he stated.

He affirmed the support of the Djiboutian Government and people to the cause of the Korean people.

A government delegation of the DPRK held talks with the Djiboutian Government delegation in Pyongyang on the same day.

Present at the talks on the Korean side were Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam and officials concerned and on the opposite side was the delegation led by Foreign Minister Abdou Block Abdou.

The talks took place in a friendly atmosphere.

Delegation Departs Pyongyang

SK1310060693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0449 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 13 (KCNA)—The Djibouti Government delegation led by Foreign Minister Abdou Block Abdou left here for home on October 12 by plane after its four-day visit to Korea.

During its stay, it visited Mangyongdae, the tower of the chuche idea, the three revolutions exhibition and other places.

Kang Song-san Meets Malaysian Delegation

SK0910152093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1505 GMT 9 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 9 (KCNA)—Kang Song-san, premier of the Administration Council of the DPRK, met and had a friendly talk with the visiting Malaysian Government delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar bin Baba, which paid a courtesy call on him, at the Mansudae Assembly Hall today.

Present there were Chairman of the State External Economic Affairs Commission Yi Song-tae, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Cho Kyu-il and the charge d'affaires ad interim of the Malaysian Embassy here.

Order Awarded to Deputy Premier

SK1010094793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0817 GMT 10 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 10 (KCNA)—A ceremony for awarding an order of the DPRK to Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar bin Baba on a visit to Korea was held at the Mansudae Assembly Hall on October 9.

Present there were premier of the Administration Council Kang Song-san, chairman of the State External Economic Affairs Commission Yi Song-tae, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Cho Kyu-il and the charge d'affaires ad interim of the Malaysian Embassy here.

A decree of the Central People's Committee of the DPRK was read and then the premier awarded the friendship order first class to the Malaysian deputy prime minister.

Malaysian Delegation Leaves

SK1210052593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0412 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 12 (KCNA)—The Malaysian Government delegation headed by Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar bin Baba left here for home on October 11 after concluding its six-day visit to Korea.

During its stay the delegation visited Mangyongdae, the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt. Taesong, the West Sea barrage and other places.

The Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia was awarded friendship order of the DPRK first class.

Choe Tae-pok Meets Brazilian Delegation

SK0110073893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0411 GMT 1 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 1 (KCNA)—Choe Tae-pok, alternate Politburo member and secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], Workers' Party of Korea, who is chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, Thursday met and had a friendly talk with a delegation of congressmen from different political parties of Brazil led by Neif Jabur, vice-chairman of the External Relations Sub-committee of the Chamber of Deputies from the Brazilian Democratic Movement.

Praising the Korean people as a people with a strong sense of independence, firmly united on the basis of one idea, the head of the delegation said on the occasion that the achievements in Korea are a precious experience for them.

DPRK Called 'Ideal Country'

SK0910111293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1020 GMT 9 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 9 (KCNA)—"The Korean people have turned their country, once reduced to ruins, into a modern and powerful country by displaying their mettle as a heroic people," said Neif Jabur, vice-chairman of the External Relations Subcommittee of the Chamber of Deputies of Brazil.

Giving his impressions of Korea, he said he well understood while visiting various places through what a hardfought struggle the Korean people have brought about enormous changes as today. The Korean people could work wonders incessantly in construction as a dignified and proud people because they hold President Kim Il-song and His Excellency Kim Chong-il in high esteem as their great leaders, he stressed.

"The world people", he went on, "highly praise respected President Kim Il-song and dear His Excellency Kim Chong-il as the greatest statesmen of the present times".

"As she has them, Korea is renowned as a strong country, as an admirable people's country," he said, adding that Korea impressed him as an ideal country, indeed.

PRC Friendship Group Departs Pyongyang

SK0910010293 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] The friendship visiting group of the Communist Party of China led by Ding Fengying, member of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection of the CPC and secretary of the Hubei Provincial Party Commission for Discipline Inspection departed Pyongyang by plane on 5 October.

Cuban Foreign Ministry Delegation Arrives

SK0910215193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1510 GMT 9 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 9 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Cuban Foreign Ministry led by Vice-Minister Mario Rodriguez [name and title as received] arrived here today.

It was met at the airport by Pak Myong-ku, vice-minister on foreign affairs, and Juan Jose Leon Vega, Cuban ambassador to Korea.

Meets With Foreign Minister

SK1210012293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2247 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 11 (KCNA)—Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam today met and had a friendly talk with the delegation of the Cuban Foreign Ministry headed by Vice-Minister Mario Rodriguez.

Present there was Cuban Ambassador to Korea Juan Jose Leon Vega.

Nepalese Communist Party Delegation Arrives

SK0910152393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1506 GMT 9 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 9 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Nepal Communist Party (United Marxism-Leninism) led by Madhav Kumar Nepal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Party, arrived here today. It was met at the airport by Kim Chung-nin, secretary of the Central Committee, Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], and Kim Yang-kon, vice-director of a department of the Central Committee, WPK.

Reception Held

SK1010095693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0828 GMT 10 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 10 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] hosted a reception Saturday for the delegation of the Nepal Communist Party (United Marxism-Leninism) on a visit to Korea.

Speaking at the reception, secretary of the WPK Central Committee Kim Chung-nin said:

"The visit to Korea by Comrade Madhav Kumar Nepal in his first foreign trip after his assumption of the important post of general secretary is an expression of particular feeling of friendship toward our party and people and a manifestation of your party's consistent will to further strengthen and develop the friendly relations between the two parties, we think.

"Your party has waged an active struggle for the freedom, political rights and vital interests of the working masses of the people, while directing big efforts to strengthening the party, uniting broad popular masses around it and forming a united front with all the progressive forces of the country from the first days of its founding, and thus has grown to be a powerful political force which exercises big influence on the politics and social affairs of Nepal. Our party highly estimates this and sincerely wishes you fresh success in your righteous activities in the future."

Head of the delegation Madhav Kumar Nepal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Nepal Communist Party (United Marxism-Leninism), in his speech said that Korea is successfully building socialism of its own style. "Korean-style socialism is sure to win because the leader, the party and the masses are united single-heartedly," he said.

Stating that "10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country" put forward by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song enjoys support from the entire Korean people, he said that the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons in the South of Korea today are a big obstacle to the reunification of Korea.

He said:

"When the imperialists and reactionaries are resorting to heinous moves against the DPRK under the pretext of the 'nuclear problem' our party waged a powerful struggle against them."

Noting that the Korean people could win enormous achievements in socialist construction as they are guided

by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, he wished the Korean people greater success in their future struggle.

Workers' Party Holds Talks

SK1110060793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0540 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 11 (KCNA)—Talks were held Sunday between delegations of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and the Nepal Communist Party (United Marxism-Leninism) [NCP (UML)].

Attending the talks on the Korean side were secretary Kim Chung-nin and Vice-Director of a Department Kim Yang-kon, of the C.C. [Central Committee], the WPK and other officials concerned, and on the opposite side were the members of the delegation of the NCP (UML) led by general secretary of its Central Committee Madhav Kumar Nepal. The sides at the talks exchanged views on further developing relations between the two parties and on some matters of common concern.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Korean Women Traders Delegation in Japan Arrives

SK0610112493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1038 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 6 (KCNA)—A delegation of Korean women traders and industrialists in Japan with U Chom-pun as its head and So Cha-yon as its adviser arrived here Tuesday by air to visit the socialist homeland.

Head of the delegation Madhav Kumar Nepal, general Korean Industrialists in Japan Group Received

SK0910111893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1027 GMT 9 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 9 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received a delegation of Korean women traders and industrialists in Japan with U Chom-pun as its head and So Cha-yon as its advisor on a visit to the socialist homeland.

Officials concerned were present on the occasion.

The head of the delegation extended highest glory and thanks to President Kim Il-song and wished him good health and long life, reflecting the unanimous loyalty of the Korean traders and industrialists in Japan.

President Kim Il-song highly estimated the great contributions the entire Korean traders and industrialists in Japan have made to the patriotic work for the development and prosperity of the country and for the reunification of the country, and had a cordial talk with the members of the delegation.

He gave a banquet for them.

Slovak Communist Party Delegation Arrives

SK0810142593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1055 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 8 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Slovak Communist Party headed by Vice-chairman of its Central Committee Tibor Keckes arrived here Friday.

It was met at the airport by Vice-director of a Department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea Pak Kyong-son.

Mongolian Friendship Association Delegation Arrives

SK0710131093 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 3 Oct 93

[Text] A Mongolian Friendship Association delegation led by (Tse Jibalma), vice president of the association, arrived in Pyongyang by train on 3 October.

Lao President Receives SPA Delegation

SK0810141593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1051 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 8 (KCNA)—"Laos has always fully supported and will continue to support the policies of national reunification put forward by Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il in the future," declared the Lao president on October 6 when he received a delegation of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of Korea headed by Chairman Yang Hyong-sop.

The president said the Korean people are firmly united around the Workers' Party of Korea led by Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il and, because of this unity, the enemies dare not provoke the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Saying all things are doing well in Korea and the international prestige of the DPRK is growing as days go by as it has the great leader and the illustrious leader, he noted that the Lao people are rejoiced as over their own over the achievements of the Korean people.

"The Lao people will remain a friend of the Korean people forever however the situation may change, and will make every effort to strengthen the friendship and solidarity with them," he said.

Talks Held With Lao Assembly

SK1110095593 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 10 Oct 93

[Text] Talks between our country's Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] delegation and the Laos National Assembly delegation were held on 5 October in Viangchan. Members of our country's SPA delegation led by its Chairman Yang Hyong-sop, our country's ambassador to Laos, and members of the Laos National

Assembly delegation led by its Chairman Saman Vignaket, participated in the talks.

During the meeting, the chairman of the Laos National Assembly warmly welcomed the delegation to Laos, and highly assessed the results achieved by our people under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. He said that the Laos People's Revolutionary Party and the government are deeply interested in the developing situation on the Korean peninsula, and that he wholly supports the measures and initiatives set forth by the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK Government for Korea's independent and peaceful reunification.

He said that outside forces must not interfere in Korea's internal affairs; that all foreign military bases must be withdrawn from South Korea; and that the Team Spirit joint military exercise must not be resumed.

The chairman of the Laos National Assembly arranged a banquet for the delegation on 5 October. The head of the SPA delegation, its members, our country's ambassador to Laos, and employees of the DPRK Embassy in Laos were invited to the banquet. Vice chairmen of the Laos National Assembly and other functionaries concerned were also on hand. The banquet was held in a friendly atmosphere.

On 7 and 8 October, the delegation visited Luang Prabang Province. On 7 October, the delegation paid a courtesy call on the governor of Luang Prabang Province and was invited to a banquet arranged by him.

During its stay in Laos, the delegation laid wreaths at the cemetery for unknown soldiers and visited the Revolutionary Traditional Museum, a clothing plant, and various cultural relics in Viangchan.

Lao Premier Meets Chairman

SK1110061293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0544 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 11 (KCNA)—Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and premier of Laos, on October 9 met with a delegation of the Supreme People's Assembly of Korea headed by chairman Yang Hyongsop.

He highly estimated the great achievements made by the Korean people in the building of the country and the struggle for national reunification under the guidance of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il.

He said they set great store by the successes and experiences made in party building and construction of the country in Korea under the wise guidance of Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il.

"The Lao party and government will always invariably support the internal and external policies and policy of national reunification of the Workers' Party and government of Korea," he stressed.

He sincerely wished the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il good health and long life and new greater success in the work for the socialist construction and reunification of the country.

Chongnyon Chairman Meets Cuban Delegation

SK1010040493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Han Tok-su, chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Koreans Residing in Japan [Chongnyon] met with a delegation of the Ministry of Foreign Relations of the Republic of Cuba in the Choson Hotel in Tokyo on 1 October. The delegation was led by Vice Minister (Mario Rodriguez).

Present there were Ho Chong-man, responsible vice chairman of the Chongnyon Central Standing Committee; So Man-sul, Paek Han-ki, and Choe Pyong-cho, vice chairmen; and Kim Su-sik, secretary general of the Chongnyon Central Standing Committee.

People's Assembly Delegation Visits Thailand

SK1110101093 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 10 Oct 93

[Text] Our country's Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] delegation led by its Chairman Yang Hyong-sop arrived in Thailand on 9 October. Thailand's House Speaker Marut Bunnak, other functionaries concerned, our country's ambassador to Thailand, and functionaries of the DPRK Embassy in Thailand, welcomed the delegation at the airport. After winding up its visit to Laos, the delegation left Viangchan on 9 October. Saman Vignaket, chairman of the Laos National Assembly, vice chairmen and standing committee members of the Laos National Assembly, and other functionaries concerned bid farewell to the delegation at the National Assembly building.

Thai King Meets Delegation

SK1410052593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0453 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 14 (KCNA)—Thai King Phumiphon Adunyadet met with a delegation of the Supreme People's Assembly of Korea headed by Chairman Yang Hyong-sop on October 11 and said the great leader President Kim Il-song has done a lot of work for the happiness of the people and development of the country for a long time and created a model of politics for the people.

The president showed that one can create happiness if he has a strong will and determination, he said, adding that he is pleased with the fact that everything is going well in Korea.

Assembly Delegation Arrives in Singapore 1 Oct

SK0710114693 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 3 Oct 93

[Text] Our country's Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] delegation led by Chairman Yang Hyong-sop arrived in Singapore on 1 October.

The delegation left Jakarta earlier in the day after winding up a visit to Indonesia. The chairman of the Indonesian Committee for Cooperation Between Parliaments, functionaries concerned, our country's ambassador to this country, and embassy staffers sent the delegation off at the airport.

Trade Union Delegation Leaves for Poland

SK0710124293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1030 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 7 (KCNA)—A delegation of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea headed by Yi Chin-su, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea [GFTUK], left here today to participate in the 45th meeting of the general council of the World Federation of Trade Unions due to be held in Poland.

It was seen off at the airport by Kim Kuk-sam, vice-chairman of the C.C. [Central Committee], GFTUK.

Independence Day of Uganda Observed

SK0910111393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1024 GMT 9 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 9 (KCNA)—MINJU CHOSON extends congratulations and greetings to the Ugandan people on the 31st anniversary of the independence.

The independence of Uganda was an important event which opened a broad avenue for its people to build an independent and prosperous, new society, the paper notes, and goes on:

The Ugandan people are making extensive efforts to achieve the stability and development of the country and economic progress.

Following the non-aligned policy externally, this country is developing friendly relations with many countries of the world including African nations.

Korea and Uganda are far away from each other geographically, but the two peoples are linked by the bonds of friendship for the commonness in their past position and present aspiration.

The Korean people will strive to develop the Korea-Uganda friendly and cooperative relations in the future, too. They express the belief that the bilateral relations of friendship will further strengthen and develop in conformity with the ideas of independence, peace and friendship and wish the Ugandan people greater success in their efforts for the independent development of the country.

WPK Sends Greetings to Yemen Socialist Party SK1110054493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0515 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 11 (KCNA)—The Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] sent a message of greetings Sunday to the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) on the occasion of the 15th YSP founding anniversary.

The C.C., WPK warmly congratulates the C.C., YSP and its entire party members on this occasion.

Believing that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two parties will continue to develop on good terms, the message wishes the YSP greater success in its activities to strengthen the party and achieve national prosperity.

Message Sent to Equatorial Guinea President

SK1110110393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1029 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 11 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, today sent a message of greetings to Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, president of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea and chairman-founder of the Democratic Party of Equatorial Guinea, on the 25th anniversary of the independence of his country.

The message wished the Equatorial Guinean president and people success in their work for the prosperity of the country and expressed the belief that the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries would continue to develop.

Kim Il-song Greets Maldives President

SK1110113193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1054 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 11 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today sent a message of greetings to Maumoon Abdul Gayoom upon his reelection as president of the Republic of Maldives.

Expressing the belief that friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries would further strengthen and develop in the future, President Kim Il-song in the message wished him great success in his responsible work for prosperity of the country and well-being of the people.

Kim Il-song Congratulates Azerbaijani President SK1210235093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1531 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 12 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on October 11 sent a message to Geydar Aliyevich Aliyev congratulating him upon his election as president of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

In the message he expressed the belief that the friendly relations between the two countries would develop on the basis of the idea of independence, peace and friendship, and wished the Azerbaijani president success in his work for strengthening the independence of the country and promoting the people's wellbeing.

Repression by South's Authorities Denounced SK1010095393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0821 GMT 10 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 10 (KCNA)—The Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland in its Information No. 637 on October 9 denounced the South Korean authorities for harshly suppressing reunification champions.

The South Korean rulers, by invoking the "National Security Law," imposed prison terms on October 6 on Pak Tong-su, director of the organisational department of "Sorohyop", and on Chong In-kun who had been arrested on the charge of their contact with a delegate of the North side to the National Alliance of Youth and Students for the Country's Reunification in Berlin.

The penalties inflicted by the South Korean authorities this time on the patriotic students who joined in the reunification movement on the strength of the "National Security Law", an anti-reunification fascist law, revealed their intention to ruthlessly crack down on the reunification movement of the people, the information says.

"The South Korean rulers running wild in suppressing the reunification movement of the students and people. brandishing blood-stained swords of fascist suppression, have no face or qualification to talk about dialogue and reunification", it states, and warns:

"The present 'regime' must know that, if it continues to pursue anti-reunification and anti-communism and fascistization, following outside forces, it will be short-lived like the preceding dictatorial 'regimes'". Article Calls DCRK Proposal 'Most Reasonable' SK1010102693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0859 GMT 10 Oct 93

["Best Way of Early Settlement of Korean Reunification Question"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 10 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry articles upon the lapse of 13 years since the great leader President Kim Il-song put forward the proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo (DCRK) at the historical Sixth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The author of the NODONG SINMUN article says:

The DCRK founding proposal is the most reasonable proposal for national reunification. It most correctly meets the requirements of the chuche idea for subordinating everything to the establishment of the nation's complete sovereignty, regarding independence as its life and blood. It also fully accords to the essence of the Korean reunification question and to the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity which the North and the South of Korea agreed upon and the world had approved.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said:

"Our party maintains that the country should be reunified by founding a confederal republic through the establishment of a unified national government on the condition that the North and the South recognize and tolerate each other's ideas and social systems, a government in which the two sides are represented on an equal footing and under which they exercise regional autonomy with equal rights and duties."

The proposal for founding the DCRK gives a comprehensive exposition of all the questions arising in the founding of a unified state and its management. It indicates the principles and ways of the establishment of a confederal state, its character and function, the duties of a unified government and regional governments and their relations and the policy to be enforced by the confederal state.

To reunify the country through confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments is the great principle that indicates the way of reunifying the country in conformity with the present conditions of the country. The application of this great principle is the only way for the North and the South to put an end to national division, to be reconciled to and united with each other as the same nation and to achieve the country's reunification peacefully at an earliest date.

Only a handful of separatist forces dislike the proposal for reunification through confederacy.

The present rulers of South Korea advertising "civilian administration" brought forward the "three-stage unification formula" the keynote of which is to complete the

"unification of one nation and one state" through the stages of "reconciliation and cooperation" and "federation of the North and the South" and are now crying for "unification based on freedom and prosperity." This is a new version of the "unification under the liberal democratic system" which the preceding dictators brought forward only to come to grief.

Further, the South Korean authorities, bewitched by the way of unification through absorption in other country, are attempting to employ such a way in our country with the backing of outside forces. This is a foolish daydream and the restoration of the bankrupt moves to "unify the country by prevailing over communism."

If the South Korean authorities are truly interested in national reunification, they must give up the infeasible "unification by prevailing over communism" and accept our practical proposal for reunification through confederacy.

'Wide Gap' in North, South's Ecologies Noted SK1210233893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1515 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 12 (KCNA)—The different social systems in the North and South of Korea have produced a wide gap in ecological environments, too.

Suffice it to take the habitation of birds.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il said:

"We must make use of forests to multiply good animals so that mountains may be swarming with such good animals as deer, No deer, pheasant and white-bellied black woodpecker."

It has recently been confirmed that scores of black-faced spoonbill are inhabiting Sogam Island and other islands on the sea off Chongju in the Northern half of Korea. The bird is regarded as one of the rarest birds, its total number in the world being about 300.

The bird was also seen laying eggs in summer on Tok Island on the sea off the West Sea barrage.

There are six nature reserves, 15 game reserves and six sea-bird propagation reserves in the Northern half of Korea.

Under the measures of the DPRK Government, trees of economic value, oil-bearing trees and trees for scenic beauty are planted on more than 100,000 hectares, and hundreds of thousands of square metres of land is occupied by pleasure parks, recreation grounds and flower gardens in towns and villages every year, so environments favorable for the habitation, protection and propagation of birds are being created.

As a result, stationary birds are increasing in large numbers and many rare birds visit the Northern half of Korea every year. According to data released by ornithologists in 1991, some 20 kinds of birds had immigrated into the Northern half in ten years.

In recent years, white swallow and white pheasant have appeared in different parts and ducks from North America, starling from Southwest Asia and pale-footed shearwater from Australia immigrated.

Bewicks swan, hite-naped crane and manchurian crane that are rare and under international protection have flocked here by thousands.

Pheasants and birds are nestling at large chemical plants and iron works in the Northern half of Korea.

The realities of the Southern half are quite opposite.

According to data released by an ornithological institute of South Korea, pollution exterminated nearly 50 kinds of birds.

Such rare birds as white heron, grey heron and white stork have rapidly diminished or disappeared.

In Yoju County, Kyonggi Province, the number of grey heron and white heron has been reduced to dozens from more than a thousand.

The South Korean newspaper TONG-A ILBO deplored the realities, saying:

"In South Korea today you can hardly see a blue sky even in a fine weather and you have to walk in the street, shedding tears and feeling too painful in the nose to breathe. Is it not self-evident that birds die in flocks and migrant birds stop coming every year to South Korea where people can hardly breathe and open their eyes because of pollution?"

North's Crop Failure Said Falsely Reported

SK1410050093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0441 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 14 (KCNA)—It is ridiculous of the South Korean rulers to resort to a false propaganda through "NAEWOE PRESS" that the northern half of the country suffered crop failure due to an abnormal weather.

NODONG SINMUN today, commenting on this, says that rich crops rare to be seen have visited everywhere in the North this year.

The analyst notes:

The worst crop failure after the 1980s has hit South Korea this year.

Dismayed at the failure of the first year's farming after the emergence of the "civilian regime," the rulers set afloat the rumor that the skimpy harvest resulted from "frost damage" in an "abnormal low temperature." The South Korean people, however, are protesting in unison that this year's poor harvest was caused by the "new agricultural policy" of the "civilian regime".

The rulers under the "civilian" veil spread the rumor that a crop failure hit the North linked with South Korea by the same vein due to an "abnormal low temperature" in an attempt to lessen, if only a little, their responsibility for the bad crops in South Korea and divert elsewhere the eyes of the protesting people from them.

The South Korean authorities must clearly know that, however desperately they may cling to a smear campaign, they cannot impair the position of the North making a long drive under the banner of socialism, nor can they turn back the popular sentiments of South Korea running toward the most superior man-centred socialist system of the North.

Scientific Symposium on Tangun, Kojoson Opens SK1310051393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0445 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 13 (KCNA)—A scientific symposium on Tangun and Kojoson (ancient Korea) opened at the Grand People's Study House Tuesday.

It was attended by president of the Academy of Social Sciences Kim Sok-hyong, Pak Si-hyong, Kim Ha-myong and other academicians, professors and doctors, historians, archaeologists, linguists, university teachers and men of the press.

Published at the symposium Tuesday were the following papers:

"The Instructions of the Great Leader Comrade Kim Il-song Regarding Tangun and Kojoson are Highly Important Guideline That Occasioned a New Turn in the Study of History" by Prof. and Dr. Chon Yong-yul, director of the History Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences,

"On the Course of the Disinterment of the Tomb of Tangun" by Dr. and Assistant Prof. Pak Chin-uk, researcher of the Archaeology Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences,

"On the Anthropological Features of Human Bones Unearthed at the Tomb of Tangun" by Dr. and Assistant Prof. Chang U-chin, room chief of the Archaeology Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences.

"On the Results of the Dating of the Bones Unearthed at the Tomb of Tangun" by Associate Dr. Kim Kyo-kyong, room chief of the Archaeology Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences,

"On Historical Records on the Tomb of Tangun" by Prof. Yi Chun-yong, researcher of Kum Song University of Politics,

"On the Birth and Activity of Tangun" by Dr. and Assistant Prof. Kang In-suk, room chief of the History Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences,

"On the Founding of Kojoson and Its Capital" by Prof. and Dr. Hyon Myong-ho, room chief of Kim Il-song University, and

"On the 'Weishu' That Conveys the Founding of a State by Tangun" by Assistant Prof. and Associate Dr. Kim Pyong-yong, head of a chair of Kim Hyong-chik University of Education.

The speakers said the recent disinterment of the tomb of Tangun and the confirmation of Tangun as the founder of the first state of the Korean nation give a perfect clarification of the national history spanning five thousand years. They noted that this is a great pride and auspicious event for the 70 million Koreans.

They explained in a profound scientific and theoretical logic the course of the disinterment of the tomb of Tangun, the anthropologic features of human bones unearthed there, the result of their dating, the establishment of Kojoson and its capital, etc.

Speeches Cited

SK1310112993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1026 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 13 (KCNA)—Speakers at the scientific symposium on Tangun and Kojoson (ancient Korea) which opened here Tuesday gave a profound scientific and theoretical exposition of the course of the disinterment of the tomb of Tangun, the anthropological features of human bones unearthed there, the result of their dating, the founding of Kojoson and its capital, etc.

Prof. and Dr. Chon Yong-yul, director of the History Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences, described the instructions of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song concerning Tangun and Kojoson as a highly important guideline that occasioned a new turn in the study of Tangun and the ancient history of Korea, a beacon for scientific clarification of Tangun and the history of Kojoson and the key to the chuche-based systemization of the national history as a whole.

Dr. and Assistant Prof. Pak Chin-uk, researcher of the Archaeology Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences, dwelt on the course of the disinterment of the tomb of Tangun. "With the disinterment of the tomb of Tangun and the discovery of his remains, it has been confirmed that Tangun died in Pyongyang and Wangkomsong, the capital of Kojoson, was not in the Liaodoing area of China but was Pyongyang," he said.

Dr. and Assistant Prof. Chang U-chin, room chief of the Archaeology Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences, explained the anthropological features of human bones unearthed at the tomb of Tangun.

Eightysix pieces of bones considered to belong to two persons were found in the chamber of coffins inside the tomb. Fortytwo of them are Tangun's and twelve are a woman's. It is difficult to identify whose are the other thirtytwo. An examination of the bones to identify sex was conducted with pelvic and other bones.

A pair of pelvic bones are noticeably characteristic of male bones—thick and sturdy.

The bones belonging to the other individual were typical of fragile woman's in any region indicating that the person had not done any manual labor.

The remains of Tangun interred in the tomb have been well preserved, not decayed for 50 centuries because the bones were buried in a favorable spot safe from decaying and weathering, that is, the tomb was located in a limestone stratum and its soil was neutral.

There is nothing mysterious about the fact that bones dating back 50 centuries still remain in the tomb.

To take the Xi'an Ban Po relics in the middle and upper reaches of the Hunghe in China for instance, excavation at the primitive tombs dating back 6,000 years yielded human bones of several hundred individuals.

In Korea, too, no small number of human bones preserving nearly full human figures were discovered from dugout-type tombs of thousands of years ago.

The male bones found in the tomb of Tangun are, no doubt, those of Tangun and he was a real person with anthropologic characteristic features.

Associate Dr. Kim Kyo-kyong, a room chief of the Archaeology Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences, read his paper on the results of the dating of the bones from the tomb of Tangun.

The absolute date of the bones was measured by the method of electronic paramagnetic resonance.

The result shows it dates back 5,011 plus or minus 267 years. The relative error is 5.4 percent.

The dating of the bones from the tomb of Tangun was done 54 times in six months.

The absolute figure showing that Tangun was born 5,011 years ago is a credible scientific figure. It is an authentic figure either in view of the credibility of experimental devices, or in view of the statistic requirements of numerical value measurement, or in the aspect of scientific-technological processes of experiment.

Prof. Yi Chun-yong, a researcher at Kum Song University of Politics, said the tomb in Kangdong has been said to be the tomb of Tangun for generations from olden times and it is written clearly in not a few documents including the remaining "A New Enlarged Edition of Summary Sketch of Scenic Spots of the Eastern State (Korea)", "True Records of Yi Dynasty", "Reference Book on Kangdong" and "History of Koryo".

Symposium Closes

SK1410050693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0431 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 14 (KCNA)—The scientific symposium on Tangun and Kojoson (ancient Korea) which opened on October 12 closed Wednesday.

The papers read at the second-day symposium are:

"On Major Characteristics of 'Myth About Tangun" by Prof. Sin Ku-hyon, a researcher of the Korean language and literature department of Kim Il-song University,

"Pyongyang is the Centre of Ancient Culture" by assistant Prof. and Associate Dr. Sok Kwang-chun, a researcher of the Archaeology Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences,

"On Japanese Imperialists' Moves To Obliterate Tangun" by academician, Prof. and Dr. Pak Si-hyong, a researcher of the History Department of Kim Il-song University,

"Ours is a Resourceful Nation With Intrinsic Alphabet From the Period of Kojoson" by Prof. and Dr. Yu Yol, a researcher of the Linguistic Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences who is a corresponding member of the academy,

"On Tangun and Taejonggyo (religion worshipping Tangun)" by Prof. and Dr. Choe Tae-chin, a councillor of the National Reunification Institute,

"On Observance and Customs in the Worship of Tangun" by Dr. and Assistant Prof. Cho Tae-il, a room chief of the History Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences, and

"Koreans is a Homogeneous Nation With Tangun as Their Father" by Prof. and Dr. Son Yong-chong, a room chief of the History Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences.

The speakers recalled that the Workers' Party of Korea set forth a correct policy of properly inheriting and developing the national cultural heritages and has wisely led the work to put it into practice. They proudly stressed that the disinterment of the Tomb of Tangun was a brilliant demonstration of the validity and great vitality of the party's policy.

They gave a profound scientific and theoretical explanation and proof of the superiority of the Korean nation who have had their intrinsic alphabet from the period of Kojoson, the major characteristics of the "Myth About Tangun", Tangun and Taejonggyo, the Japanese imperialists' moves to obliterate Tangun, etc.

The new scientific exposition of Tangun and Kojoson is of great theoretical and practical significance, the speakers said. They said this made it possible to find out the father of the Korean nation, establish the legitimacy of the national history and confirm the long history and homogeneity of the nation, thus giving the Korean people great national pride and self-confidence.

Yi In-mo Visits Korean Revolution Museum

SK0910050393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0415 GMT 9 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 9 (KCNA)—Incarnation of faith and will, Yi In-mo, a former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army, visited the Korean revolution museum on October 8.

While seeing relics and historical materials on display with keen interest, he heard an explanation about the feats of the great leader President Kim Il-song who embarked upon the road of the revolution in his early years, founded the immortal chuche idea, put forward the revolutionary line and strategy and tactics by applying it and led the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle to victory.

He was also told that the great leader put forward policies for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and wisely led the struggle for their materialisation.

Leaving the museum, he wrote in the visitor's book: "I deeply felt that the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il are immediately the motherland. I will devote my all to our leader, our party, and our country".

Meets With Korean Students

SK1010101493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0843 GMT 10 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 10 (KCNA)—Yi In-mo, the incarnation of faith and will, and the members of a home-visiting group of students of Korea University of Chongnyon [General Association of Korean Residents in Japan] staying in the socialist homeland met here Saturday.

Yi In-mo said, to begin with, that on April 15 the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song who should enjoy blessings of all the people, personally visited him at the hospital and bestowed deep loving care and trust on him.

And he said the source of the strength which made him keep the principle of a revolutionary in spite of all manner of tortures and persecution by the enemy lay in that he lived and fought with the great leader as his mental mainstay.

Yi stressed that the Korean students residing in an alien land should stoutly live, deeply cherishing in their minds the steel-like faith that the motherland is immediately the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The members of the visiting group said that the noble fighting spirit displayed by comrade Yi In-mo is a precious pabulum of life and struggle for them. They pledged to fight staunchly for the reunification of the country and its prosperity and development, looking up to the great leader and the dear leader, deeply conscious of the honor and pride of being young men and women of chuche Korea.

Kim Chong-il Sends Gift

SK1410044093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0418 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 14 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent a gift to Yi In-mo.

Comrade Kim Chong-il who has brought to the fore Yi, an unknown soldier, as the incarnation of faith and will, always pays deep attention to his health and life and lavishes love and solicitude on him.

Upon receiving the gift on October 12, Yi In-mo recalled that the dear leader enabled him, who had suffered in a cold prison cell of South Korea without any blanket and clothes to speak of, to enjoy a happy life in good health to his heart's content with his family. He voiced his firm resolve to repay with loyalty, not forgetting forever, the loving care shown by the dear leader who sent him again a benevolent gift.

Revolution Museum Displays Gifts

SK1410112593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1001 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 14 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il put up comrade Yi In-mo, former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army, as the incarnation of faith and will before the nation, took care that he was embraced in the socialist homeland, gave him all happiness which can be enjoyed by a revolutionary soldier, and took a benevolent measure to put the souvenirs to Yi In-mo presented by democratric organisations and people of South Korea on display at the Korean Revolution Museum.

Calligraphic works, landscape paintings, hanging-scrolls, a gold ring, a wall hanger, clothes and other souvenirs on display represent the warm feelings of the South Korean people who praise Yi In-mo for keeping his revolutionary faith and principles even under the brutal tortures of the enemy and aspire after the Reunification of the country.

A hanging-scroll from a democratic organisation of South Korea carries a Korean map with Mt. Paektu soaring high and words of faith "I will go to Mt. Paektu." Inscribed in the gold ring are words "reunified land" carrying the cherished desire of the Korean people to lead a happy life in a reunified country.

The souvenirs include writings and signatures made by South Korean people praising the incarnation of faith and will and vowing to advance along the road of reunification.

Pyongyang Tobacco Paper Plant Completed

SK0910014693 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Excerpts] A ceremony to begin operation of the Pyongyang tobacco paper plant of the Korea General Tobacco Corporation was held on the spot in the morning of 7 October. [passage omitted on description of paper plant]

Kim Pok-sin, vice premier of the Administration Council, and other officials concerned attended the ceremony together with the employees of this company.

The ceremony began with the singing of the song of Marshal Kim Il-song and the song of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Comrade Kim Pok-sin read the congratulatory message from the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee to the workers, technicians, office employees, and three revolution team members. [passage omitted on content of message]

Yi Yong-min, responsible secretary of the party committee of the Korea General Tobacco Corporation, made a report on operation. [Begin Yi recording]

Comrades, today all working people across the country are effecting continued revolutionary upsurges on all fronts of socialist construction by cherishing the endless national pride in having splendidly celebrated the 40th anniversary of victory in the fatherland liberation war as a great political festival. They are also significantly marking the 48th anniversary of the founding of the WPK with brilliant labor exploits by accelerating the vigorous march forward. At this exciting time, we are holding a ceremony to begin the operation of Pyongyang tobacco paper plant. [passage omitted]

Functionaries, party members, working people and three revolutionary team members of the general corporation, unanimously rising, carried out construction of a total of 33,000 square meters of plants including the Pyongyang tobacco paper plant and [word indistinct] in only a few years. This was indeed a difficult construction project which should be carried out with its own ability while carrying out the basic production plan.

However, functionaries and the working class of our corporation vigorously waged the struggle to implement this project by cherishing lofty awareness of being the masters in charge with tobacco industry and by upholding the slogan, "What the party decides, we will do!"

As the result, we successfully carried out a total of 175,400 cubic meters of soil (?conditioning) work; production of 3,800 cubic meters of supplementary materials and 1,638,000 pieces of blocks; 15,000-odd cubic meters of concrete work; production of 7,600 square meters of construction materials; a project to install

27,800 meters of various pipes; 164,500 meters of electricity projects; and assembly of 5,000 facilities. [passage omitted]

Fishery, Sea Culture Stations Hit Yearly Targets SK1210035993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2206 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 11 (KCNA)—The Odaejin export fisheries station and sea culture station hit their yearly targets at the end of September.

Odaejin is one of the major fishing bases on the east coast.

Located in the southern end of the Kyongsong Bay, it has several modernly equipped fisheries stations and fishermen's cooperatives.

Resources of fishes including myongtae (a member of cod family), herring, trout and cuttle fish are abundant in the sea off Odaejin and such seaweeds as undaria pinnatifida and tangle are largely cultivated in the inshore sea. Tens of thousands of tons of fishes and thousands of tons of seaweeds are produced there every year.

Refrigerating and processing facilities operate to refrigerate and process the fishes caught in time.

A fishing boat repair plant is available, which can repair several ships of hundreds of ton class simultaneously. Floating frames for sea culture, gill nets frames and other raft-shape floats, nets, angles and other fishing tackle are produced there for the fishing bases of the province.

Kim Chong-il Sends Thanks to Units, Enterprises SK1310152193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1503 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 13 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il extended thanks to different organs, enterprises and units which had distinguished themselves in aiding the People's Army. They include the State Light Industry Commission, the State Power Industry Commission, the Ministry of Commerce, Party Committees of North Pyongan and Chagang Provinces, Nampo Municipality, Changpung and Kaepung Counties, and working people at the Tongdaewon garment factory in Pyongyang, the Pyongyang textile combine, the Mangyongdae machine tool factory, the Kim Chong-tae electric locomotive complex, the Pyongyang department store No. 1, district sales stores in Pyongyang and other commercial and service domains.

His thanks also went to the employees of the external propaganda bureau who had sincerely helped special-class disabled soldiers with kindred feelings.

The beautiful tradition of Army-civilian unity fully displayed across the country is another clear token of the might of the Korean-style socialism based on the singlehearted unity of the leader, the party and the masses. Comrade Kim Chong-il also extended thanks to the builders who participated in the capacity expansion project of the Sunan duck's fur processing factory in Pyongyang, a factory producing various duck's fur padded clothes, quilts and other goods, and to the employees of the factory.

Chuche Institute Head Grants Interview

SK1310152393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1508 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 13 (KCNA)—Shuhachi Inoue, director general of the International Institute of the Chuche Idea (IICI) who is the first winner of "International Kim Il-song Prize", in a press interview referred to his honour as the first prize laureate as an expression of warm encouragement and belief of President Kim Il-song and Secretary Kim Chong-il that he should further contribute body and soul to the cause of global independence, CHOSON SINBO published by the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) reported October 9.

He said:

Through valuable teachings of President Kim Il-song in last September and the truth and validity of the chuche idea and the brilliant reality of the socialism of chuche Korea, I became convinced that the president is, indeed, the outstanding leader of mankind, and a steadfast mental support came to settle in my mind.

The chuche idea has become my one and only life and soul.

Respected President Kim Il-song is, indeed, the benefactor and protector of the political life of us who are studying and following the chuche idea.

Firmly believing in respected President Kim Il-song and esteemed Secretary Kim Chong-il as the only leaders who can hew out the destiny of mankind and save socialism from crisis, I will unremittingly conduct activities to propagate and disseminate the chuche idea so as to accomplish the cause of making the whole world independent at an earlier date.

Shuhachi Inoue said he would actively contribute to the noble cause of realising independence of the whole world by forming more chuche idea study groups in many countries, steadily increasing the ranks of followers of the chuche idea and enhancing the functions of the International Institute of the Chuche Idea and the role of the board of the IICI and its directors.

Army Command Personnel Arrive for Meeting

SK1310021993 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Those who will participate in the meeting of the commanding personnel and the political functionaries of the Korean People's Army [KPA] arrived in Pyongyang by train on 11-12 October.

To welcome the participants, who have glory and pride to demonstrate the might of a one-a-match-for-100 fighting forces and defend the socialism of our own style in hearty response to the leadership of KPA Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il, a large number of the working people, youth, and students in Pyongyang City came to Pyongyang station and streets nearby.

The portrait of Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people, was put up at the Pyongyang station. Put up at Pyongyang station were slogans reading, "Long Live the Great Leader Comrade Kim Il-song" and "Long Live of the Glorious Workers Party of Korea." Seen in various places were the slogans, "Warmly welcome the participants in the meeting of the KPA commanding personnel and political functionaries," "Welcome, Army-People Unity," and "One-being-a-match-for-100 soldiers."

As soon as the participants got off the train, the masses warmly welcomed them, waving flowers and dancing to a brass band playing the songs, "The Fatherland Cannot Exist Without You" and "Let Us Defend the Socialist Fatherland."

Citizens of all strata presented bouquets and baskets of flowers to the participants. The participants were met by Kim Pong-yul and Kim Kwang-chin, KPA vice marshals; responsible functionaries from the organizations of the Armed Forces; responsible functionaries of the party and government organizations and administrative and economy organizations in Pyongyang City; and functionaries concerned.

While vigorously waving party flags, Republic flags, and red flags, the participants expressed their firm will to embroider the meeting as a historic one, which demonstrates the firm faith and indomitable spirit of the revolutionary army's commanding personnel endlessly faithful to the party and the leader and which contributes to strengthening the KPA to be the ever-victorious and invincible revolutionary Armed Forces.

Action Program of Student Organization Noted SK1110102793 Prongvang KCNA in English 1002

SK1110102793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1002 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 11 (KCNA)—A regular meeting of the entire representatives of the Seoul District Federation of General Student Councils (Sochongnyon) held some time ago reportedly confirmed a new action program of the organisation.

The organisation defined it as its action program to "check the U.S. aggression through national unity," "prevent expansion of political and military forces of imperialists such as the United States, Japan, etc." and "expose and neutralize the false reform policy of the anti-national 'regime' which follows them."

It announced that it would fight to liquidate the legacies of the military "regime", create an environment for independence, democracy and reunification and smash the market-opening pressure.

Kim Chong-il Sends Birthday Tables

To Professor

SK1210122793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1015 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 12 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent a 60th birthday table to Chon Sun-yong, dean of the history and geography faculty of Myongsin University who has devoted herself to the educational work for nearly 40 years.

The benevolent birthday table carries the warm love and trust of Comrade Kim Chong-il who puts up and leads intellectuals as eternal companions, faithful helpers and good advisors of the party.

Born into a poor peasant's family in Yechon County, North Kyongsang Province of South Korea, she graduated from Kim Hyong-chik University of education in the bosom of the republic and has grown up as a woman educator and associate professor.

She wrote over 30 textbooks including "Geography of Korea" and reference books, contributing to the development of our geography and to the education of the rising generation.

Upon receiving the birthday table on October 11, she said:

"Bearing deep in mind this honour and happiness of today, I will always devotedly struggle to resolutely defend and glorify the socialist system of Korean style centred on the popular masses and bring up more reliable reserve educators so as to discharge my duty as a professional revolutionary".

To Public Service Worker

SK1310104693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1008 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 13 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent a seventieth birthday table to Kim Son-ok, chief of time Kanggye Hotel in Chagang Province who has worked sincerely for more than 30 years as a true public service worker for the country and the people.

Born into a peasant family during the Japanese imperialist rule, she graduated from a commercial cadres training school after the liberation of the country and has since worked in the service domain, bringing palpable benefits to the state.

Comrade Kim Chong-il has made an unassuming woman of meritorious services of Kim Son-ok who has devotedly worked as a true servant of the country and the people and sent benevolent gifts to her on holidays.

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Upon receiving the seventieth birthday table on October 12, she said she would do a lot of work for the country and the people and thus repay the party's benevolence with loyalty.

To Centenarian

SK1410113293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1022 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 14 (KCNA)—Cho Mal-yong in Onsong-up, Onsong County, North Hamgyong Province, Wednesday received a benevolent birthday table sent by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il on her centennial birthday.

An increasing number of people are enjoying their longevity in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the popular health policy of the Workers' Party of Korea and the state.

Deeply moved by the birthday table, she said "Dear leader, what have I done to receive such wonderful birthday table. As you have shaped excellent politics for the people, I have the honor of receiving this centennial birthday table."

South Korea

IAEA To Wait for DPRK Negotiation Proposal

SK1410003393 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0005 GMT 14 Oct 93

[By Correspondent Cha Man-sun from Vienna]

[Text] Even though the inspection equipment installed in North Korea's nuclear facilities is paralyzed, the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] will not send its personnel to North Korea to replace the inspection equipment until North Korea puts forward a proposal for holding negotiations with the IAEA.

David Kyd, director of the IAEA Information Department, said that though the electric power and film of the inspection equipment installed in North Korea's nuclear facilities will be consumed sooner or later, the IAEA will not show positive activity until North Korea asks the IAEA to send the IAEA inspection teams to North Korea.

David Kyd pointed out that if the function of the inspection equipment installed in North Korea's nuclear facilities is paralyzed, the inspection results which have been so far conducted will be revoked and, thus, North Korea will fully violate the nuclear safeguard accord.

North Said To Accuse IAEA of Suspending Talks SK1410004293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0021 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] United Nations, Oct. 13 (YONHAP)—North Korea has accused the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) of destroying the possibility of negotiating nuclear inspection and of losing the qualification to talk further by abandoning fairness and faking a General Assembly resolution.

North Korean Ambassador to the United Nations Pak Kil-yon, repeating a statement issued by Atomic Energy Industry Minister Choe Hak-kun, charged in a news conference Wednesday that the IAEA had sent a forged letter to UN Secretary General Butros Butros Ghali and said that Pyongyang would no longer have any dealings with the nuclear watchdog agency.

The North Korean nuclear problem could only be resolved through bilateral talks with the United States and there was no agreement that made North Korea-IAEA negotiations a condition for a third Pyongyang-Washington high-level meeting, Pak said.

"It was the IAEA who threw away all possibilities of negotiations for nuclear inspections, but a contact on the level of normal agency activity is still possible," he said.

Pyongyang's suspension of its withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) continues in effect as it is an agreement with Washington, Pak said.

North Korea and the United States were in the preparatory stage for the third round of high-level talks, he said.

North's 'Double Strategy' on Nuclear Issue Viewed

SK1410101193 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 14 Oct 93 p 3

[Editorial: "North Korea Refuses To Hold Nuclear Negotiations"]

[Text] Why is the international society patient with North Korea's random abuse of the nuclear card, and why is it trying to seek a rational reaction to this? The reason is none but to maintain world peace by preventing an unexpected fire game, which North Korea may start. North Korea has been taking a double strategy cleverly, while using the nuclear issue as an effective means to maintain its system on one hand, and on the other hand, demanding the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea and the denuclearization of South Korea.

The result of the North Korean strategy has already been realized as the ROK declared its denuclearization and suspension of the Team Spirit exercise and as the U.S. Government accelerated its contacts with North Korea. While being aware of the hidden purpose at which the North aims, the ROK and the United States cannot defeat North Korea's strategic offensive because they have converted from the Cold War logic to the one for peaceful coexistence. In other words, they desire a direct approach to the issue by South and North Korea, the nation concerned, and do not want the atmosphere of world peace broken. Such durable patience and sincerity.

however, seems fruitless. North Korea again poured cold water on the peace mood by declaring that it would not hold negotiations with the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA]. The North's hidden aim behind its refusal of negotiations with the IAEA and its demand for direct dialogue with the United States is obviously to stall for time. The U.S. Government also knows this very well.

At the IAEA General Assembly held early October, a resolution demanding North Korea's sincere implementation of the nuclear safeguards accord was adopted by an overwhelming majority. Nevertheless, the North refused it. It is now inevitable that the issue will be left for future discussion by the UN Security Council. After it failed to find another pretext, North Korea took a strategy of demanding direct negotiations with the United States as a means to avoid international pressure. It is obvious that North Korea intended to show room for political negotiations and to demonstrate its flexibility toward the issue by declaring a resumption of dialogue with the United States, instead of rejecting discussions on the nuclear issue. With this hidden purpose, North Korea is calculating that it will gain some fruit from negotiations with the U.S. Government, leaving the channel for South-North dialogue open perfunctorily. However, Pyongyang must now abandon such a mean strategy, promote South-North dialogue sincerely, and accept the nuclear issue and other pending issues between the two sides as internal questions of our nation. To negotiate internal issues with a third party just reveals that the "independence" that North Korea values is counterfeit. In recent days, North Korea is actively seeking a channel for approaching the U.S. Congress. This is also a part of its strategy of stalling time. North Korea invited U.S. Congressman Gary Ackerman to Pyongyang and carried out diplomatic propaganda. There is no reason for us to denounce the North Korean act itself. However, the form and content of the act was extremely naive and enabled us to learn easily that the North is still pursuing disturbance and division. North Korea must give up seeking a temporary avoidance of its crisis and international isolation and must have a more sincere attitude to solve the national question. I hope the North is not so foolish as to bring political and economic sanctions on itself by stubbornly ignoring international society's concern and advice about the nuclear threat.

Government Deliberating Over Missile Program SK1410012193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0111 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 14 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government is deliberating whether to participate in the Theater Missile Defense (TMD) System that the United States and Japan are discussing.

"The United States has asked South Korea several times if it will take part in the TMD and is expected to make the same request at the Security Consultative Meeting

(SCM) to be held in Seoul on Nov. 3-4," a senior Foreign Ministry official said Thursday.

The United States started development in 1991 of a system that locates enemy missiles using a military satellite or an Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) plane.

It then shoots them down with interceptor missiles such as the Patriot, used against Iraqi Scud missiles in the Gulf war, or an advanced missile like the U.S. Thaad, now under development.

"As foreign minister Han Sung-chu told South Korean correspondents in Tokyo last month, the government sees positively South Korea's possible participation in the TMD project. But the government has not yet decided on its policy," he said.

"Japan recently became passive in participating in the program because of the huge amount of money it will cost, so we will have to prudently study the issue."

John M. Deutch, deputy defense secretary for acquisition and technology, visited Seoul on Sept. 23-24 to explain the program and tap South Korean participation.

Request To Participate Examined

SK1410032793 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 14 Oct 93 p 1

[By reporter Pak Tu-sik]

[Text] It was learned that the government is actively examining the possibility of participating in the Theater Missile Defense [TMD] program, which is currently being discussed by the United States and Japan.

A high-ranking government official revealed: "It seems that the United States will officially request the ROK's participation in the TMD program at the annual ROK-U.S. Security Consultative Meeting scheduled from 3 to 4 November in Seoul. The government recently decided that if the United States makes an official request, it will be examined by the ROK side for active participation in the future defense industry and for improvement of the ROK's security environment."

It was learned that the U.S. Government dispatched John Deutch, deputy defense secretary for acquisition and technology, to Seoul from 23 to 24 September to approach the ROK Government's diplomatic and security-related officials on their participation in the program.

The TMD system detects a missile attack by an aerial satellite and then intercepts the missile in three stages. This system was approved by the U.S. Congress in July 1992. In the 1994 defense budget, \$3.4 billion has been allotted to this program.

If the United States calls for a large-sized share of expenditure as a precondition for the ROK's participation in the program, the government will make diplomatic compromises and will work to participate in this program within the realm of possibility. It was learned that the government has started a basic architecture study [kibon chegye yongu] on the situation of the security on the Korean peninsula and topographical conditions, which are prerequisites in participating in the TMD program.

The TMD program is being promoted under the concept of the missile defense system of each region. Five countries—Great Britain, Germany, Israel, Italy, and Japan—have concluded a memorandum of understanding with the United States and are currently participating in the program.

Talks With U.S. on Patriot

SK1410085893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0850 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Taejon, South Korea, Oct. 14 (YONHAP)—South Korean Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Cho Kun-hae said on Thursday that Seoul is discussing with Washington the possible deployment of the Patriot missile system in South Korea in peacetime.

"If North Korea launches a Scud missile attack against the South, we do not have any choice but to wait for the U.S. Patriot missile units to come. So we are discussing the issue with the United States," Cho told lawmakers during a parliamentary inspection of Air Force headquarters.

South Korean participation in the Theater Missile Defense (TMD) System is necessary, he said.

"I think it's necessary that South Korea take part in the TMD system in the future to defend its territorial air space, but considering the enormous budgetary requirements, the Air Force will carefully study whether to participate in the system."

The United States has asked South Korea to participate in its TMD program.

"We are studying the introduction of airborne warning and control system (AWACS) planes in an effort to prevent a possible blackout of air surveillance and air control in case all radar networks are attacked," he said.

He stressed that reinforcement of the Air Force is essential.

"We must consider reinforcement of the Air Force in preparation for unification and future change of the security situation around the Korean peninsula," Cho said.

"Given the operation area of the peninsula, the Air Force should be reinforced to at least 100,000 while the number of tactical aircraft should be increased to more than 700."

Further on Sending More Troops to Somalia

SK1410110593 Seoul YONHAP in English 1055 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 14 (YONHAP)—The government is initially negative to the request made by U.S. President Bill Clinton for the dispatch of South Korean combat troops to Somalia, a senior government official said on Thursday.

He said that so far no government decision has been made with regard to the issue of additional dispatch of troops to Somalia.

"Relevant government offices are carefully studying it," said the official. "But, it is difficult for us to review the request affirmatively."

The official said Clinton's message did not use the express words "combat troops." "In effect, however, he asked for combat troops as he described a unit able to take part in battle," he said.

Another ranking government official said it is difficult for Korea to turn down the U.S. request outright in view of the traditionally existing friendly relations between the two countries and the Korea-U.S. summit meeting slated for next month.

"But, under this civilian-led government calling for national self-esteem, we cannot accept what shouldn't be accepted merely because it was a request of the United States," he added.

Foreign Minister Cited

SK1410101293 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0930 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu said that the government has not yet concluded its stance on sending combat forces to Somalia. In a news briefing held on 14 October, Minister Han confirmed that U.S. President Clinton sent a personal letter to President Kim Yong-sam last week requesting the ROK send troops that can participate in combat. He said that serious discussions are being made on how to react to this.

Daily Criticizes U.S. Request

SK1410092593 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 14 Oct 93 p 3

[Editorial: "The Government Absolutely Should Not Send Combat Troops to Somalia"]

[Text] If we may state our conclusion first, we hold that the government absolutely should not send combat troops to Somalia. The government is said to be considering a policy to send combat troops to Somalia. We urge the government to immediately give up this policy.

According to several reports, it has been said that U.S. President Clinton sent a personal letter to President Kim

Yong-sam, asking him to send over at least a battalionlevel unit to Somalia. We are taken by surprise to see that, to maintain the general ROK-U.S. relations and the cooperative system for the solution of North Korea's nuclear issue, the government is nearly sharing its opinion to accept the U.S. demand. Of course, the final decision of the government is not yet made. If Kim Yong-sam's regime decides to send combat troops to Somalia, it is very certain that Kim Yong-sam's regime will be faced with great protest and resistance from the political circles, including the organizations of dissidents, students, religions, and citizens. We already clearly held that there is no justification for our government to send more troops, including combat troops and supporting troops, to Somalia. Our claim is based on the fact that, as the situation in Somalia is worsening as days pass, the activities of the "UN peacekeeping operations," composed of various countries' military troops, have not born a satisfactory result. Above all, the United States has expressed that it will completely withdraw its forces from Somalia by March next year. Contrary to the original purpose of maintaining peace in Somalia, the U.S. forces in Somalia have tried to arrest Aideed, the leader of the antigovernment forces. In this process, the U.S. forces suffered the damage—15 U.S. soldiers were killed and one soldier has been arrested. Since the U.S. soldiers' bodies were seen on television drawn in the streets and a U.S. prisoner of war seen questioned on television, opinion within the United States has become worse. For the sake of a "glorious victory and honorable withdrawal from Somalia," President Clinton is hastily soothing the angry U.S. citizens with his promise to settle the Somali incident by reinforcing the armed forces.

Only because of the situation within the United States, U.S. President Clinton has asked the ROK to send more troops to Somalia. Of course, combat troops as the UN peacekeeping operations should not be sent to Somalia. As the situation in Somalia becomes worse, France and Belgium are hurrying to withdraw their troops from Somalia. Thus, the peacekeeping operations are, in fact, in the process of being dissolved. Instead it means to carry out a full-scale clean-up operation of the rebels through the U.S. troops and the U.S. hired troops. It is very difficult to foretell the future of Somalia's civil war. There is no guarantee anywhere that the intention of the United States will be correct. There is also no interest whatsoever related to our national interests in Somalia. The Cold War has ended throughout the world. Therefore, an environment to carry out an ideological war does not exist any longer in this world. Think about the Vietnam war. After the United States, we dispatched the largest number of troops to the Vietnam war. What have we obtained and what have we lost from Vietnam's civil war?

We must not think about shedding blood once again led by the hands of the United States. At first we sent the Pigeon Unit, an engineer corps, to the Vietnam war but later we had to send combat troops to Vietnam. It will be foolish to repeat this kind of bitter experience intentionally. To say that it will be unavoidable to dispatch combat troops because of ROK-U.S. relations and the issue of resolving the North's nuclear issue, stems from anachronistic flunkeyism and an antinational motive. In the sixties it was inevitable for ROK-U.S. relations to stand as a relationship of servant and master because the ROK had to maintain its government and obtain loans. Do we still have to play the role of servant by shedding blood? In its ultimate stage North Korea's nuclear issue will be have to be resolved between South and North Korea. If we don't dispatch our combat troops to Somalia, does it mean that the United States will change its attitude on North Korea's nuclear issue? There is the harsh look of the international community.

What the government has to do now is rather than examining the possibility of dispatching combat troops, it must settle the date for the withdrawal of the troops of the Evergreen Unit in accordance with their safety and change in the situation. We gravely warn the government. Don't even think about dispatching combat troops.

Talks on Agriculture With U.S. on 15 Oct

SK1210023393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0205 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 12 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States meet in Geneva on Friday to discuss the Uruguay Round agricultural sector talks and Korea's contribution to the global trade liberalization accord.

Chon Chung-in, director-general of the Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Ministry's international cooperation and trade bureau, will represent Seoul. Washington's chief delegate will be from the foreign agriculture service of the Agriculture Department.

Seoul officials predict stronger U.S. pressure for rice market opening in the wake of Japan's move toward partial liberalization following this year's crop failure.

In recent talks with Washington, Tokyo is said to have maintained its rejection of tariffication without exception, but accepted minimum market access for farm goods.

Seoul is expected to argue that since Korea's economic size differs considerably from Japan's and its farming industry is much more dependent on rice, it cannot be compared with Japan.

Korea and the United States also held bilateral negotiations on Sept. 10, but without narrowing their differences.

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) has set a Dec. 15 deadline for conclusion of the Uruguay Round negotiations, but it is uncertain if it will be met as the United States and European community stand by their incompatible positions on agricultural subsidies.

Not To Open Rice Market

SK1410025093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0237 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 14 (YONHAP)—South Korea will keep the doors to its rice market firmly closed even if Japan opens up, First Assistant Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Kim Kwang-hui said Thursday.

"The Korean Government has not been informed of Tokyo's decision to open by Japan, the United States or the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade," Kim said. "But we noticed earlier that the Japanese Government was moving to open the market."

Seoul will reaffirm its position on keeping its rice market closed in Korea-U.S. negotiations on farm products that begin Friday in Geneva.

Asked about press reports that Japan has agreed to delay market opening for some farm products for six years in a secret meeting with the United States, Kim said that the issues would be decided in multilateral negotiations, not bilateral negotiations.

"If Japan opens its rice market, Korea may be in a weaker position in multilateral negotiations of the Uruguay Round because a friend has been lost, or it may be in a better position since foreign pressure on us might weaken," Kim said.

Envoy to Geneva on Negotiations

SK1210085093 Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean 12 Oct 93 p 7

[Interview with Ho Sung, ambassador to the Geneva mission, by correspondent Pak Kam-muk in Paris on the Uruguay Round negotiations; date not given]

[Text] [Pak] In an interview with the French magazine LIBERATION held several days ago, French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe viewed it difficult to conclude Uruguay Round [UR] negotiations before the end of the year, interesting public attention. He judged so because he believed it impossible to resolve pending issues concerning textile, steel, audio-visual materials, and other fields in 10 weeks even if the conflict between the United States and the EC over agricultural issues is settled soon. How are the negotiations going in Geneva?

[Ho] The situation is a bit strained. The middle of November will be the most important time for the UR negotiations. If countries concerned reach agreements on each pending issue in principle, I think the negotiations can be concluded by the 15 December deadline.

[Pak] That sounds optimistic. Do you think the conflict between the United States and the EC over agricultural issues, which is the biggest obstacle to the UR negotiations, will finally be resolved?

[Ho] The confrontation between the two sides over the Blair House treaty will remain to the last moment. Many

people think the EC will make a final decision on agricultural issues when it is satisfied with the progress made in the market approaching and service fields.

However, no one can assure that the EC, particularly France, will make a concession gently. If I have to express numerically the possibility that the negotiations will be concluded before the end of the year, I would say it is 51 percent.

[Pak] What is the next biggest issue following the agricultural issue?

[Ho] Because none of the pending issues are easy to solve, we may say all the pending issues are points of dispute. For example, the tariff-down decision agreed upon at the G-7 summit held in Tokyo in July is now faced with strong opposition from developing countries because the decision reflects the interests of advanced countries, not those of developing countries.

Even if these issues are resolved after much complications, further arguments will be inevitable in the course of making a decision concerning systemic questions whether to establish a World Trade Organization or a GATT II.

[Pak] How do you think negotiations over the rice issue will develop?

[Ho] I personally judge that Japan will finally agree to the principle of "unexceptional taxation." Canada and Switzerland, however, are not likely to accept it easily.

For Canada, whose central government is not powerful, it will be difficult to persuade local governments to accept this principle. Switzerland will have a burden of conducting a referendum in order to accept it. Our government will hold out against the principle, too, whether our position is accepted or not.

Heritage Foundation Urges U.S. Support for Reforms

SK1410032393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0227 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Washington, Oct. 13 (YONHAP)—A private conservative think tank, championing the economic and political reforms initiated by South Korean President Kim Yong-sam, has advised the U.S. Administration to continue support for Kim's reforms in respect to America's vital stake in democratic progress of Korea.

In a policy backgrounder dated Oct. 12, the Heritage Foundation says Kim's reforms will greatly strengthen Korean democracy and open the country's market wider to American investors and that Kim's success in his reforms is essential for the United States as they will build a stronger Korea to better respond to the challenges of eventual reunification.

The report was jointly written by foundation President Edwin Feulner and policy analyst Richard Fisher to update its Asian studies center newsletter.

"A strong and democratic South Korea will eventually lead to a reunified Korea that stands as a solid cornerstone for stability amidst the potential turbulence of Northeast Asia," the report says.

To assure peace, the foundation advised that resolving North Korea's nuclear threat must become U.S. President Bill Clinton's first priority in Asia as with peace in Northeast Asia secure, Washington can more easily achieve important goals such as reducing barriers to America's trade with Asia.

It states that Washington first of all must work with Seoul and Tokyo to end Pyongyang's nuclear weapons program by next year, before it is too late to stop it.

It notes that despite Seoul and Washington's assurance that North Korean moderation will be answered with economic cooperation and political recognition from Western nations and Japan, all persuasion and attempts to end its nuclear weapons program have been rebuffed and were futile.

The institute warns that the price of failing to stop Pyongyang may be nuclear terrorism against Asian, American or Israeli cities in 1995.

"Through mutual consultations, Washington and Seoul should prepare to ask the United Nations Security Council to consider a wide range of sanctions against North Korea if it refuses to bring its nuclear weapons program to an end," it says.

The think tank sees North Korea's nuclear threat as one of the greatest challenges to President Kim's democratic reforms and South Korean progress along with bureaucratic resistance to reform.

Without attributing the source of its information, the Heritage Foundation predicted that upon completion of its second nuclear reactor, North Korea might be able to make up to seven nuclear weapons a year.

Quoting Kim as declaring in late September that "North Korea has enough nuclear material to make up to three bombs," it warns that a nuclear-armed North Korea will destabilize Asia as countries like Japan was likely to seek their own nuclear weapons.

In this regard, the foundation was somewhat critical of Clinton's plan to reduce active U.S. Army divisions from 14 to 10.

It said the planned U.S. Force reductions must not be allowed to detract from the U.S. military's current ability to reinforce South Korea rapidly in the event of a North Korean attack.

It suggested Washington continue to conduct annual South Korea-U.S. combined forces exercises like "Team Spirit".

To encourage the implementation of President Kim's ambitious reforms, the institute strongly advises a summit between Kim and Clinton next month since the Korean president is due in Seattle for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation meeting and using the opportunity to solidify their personal ties and Seoul-Washington alliance.

The heritage foundation is said to have had considerable influence over policy making in the Republican administrations of Ronald Reagan and George Bush.

Foreign Minister To Make Official Visit to PRC SK1410121793 Seoul YONHAP in English 1206 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 14 (YONHAP)—Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu will make an official visit to China on Oct. 27 at the invitation of his Chinese counterpart, Minister Qian Qichen, the Foreign Ministry reported on Thursday.

During his five-day stay in Beijing, Minister Han will have a Korea-China Foreign Ministers meeting, during which Han is expected to call for China's continuous cooperation in the settlement of North Korea's nuclear issues.

At the end of the talks, Minister Han will sign a Korea-China environmental cooperation agreement, it said.

PRC Academy of Social Sciences President To Visit

SK0810233793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0931 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—Hu Sheng, president of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, is set to visit Seoul on Oct. 10 at the invitation of the Korea Foundation.

The foundation reported on Friday that Hu, who is also vice chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, will stay in Korea for eight days through Oct. 17.

Hu will pay courtesy calls on the National Assembly speaker, prime minister and some other government leaders, and will meet with leading academicians, the foundation said.

He will be accompanied by Mrs. Hu and two officials of the Social Sciences Academy. Joint PRC Relations After One Year Examined 932C0215A Seoul CHUGAN CHOSON in Korean 19 Aug 93 pp 10-12

[By reporter Pak Tu-sik]

[Text] This August 24th will be the one-year anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the old, cold-war enemies, South Korea and China. It is also the one-year anniversary of the severing of ties between old, anti-commnist-camp allies, South Korea, and Taiwan.

During the last year, South Korea-Chinese relations continued rapid development externally. The easiest indicator of this is, of course, the expansion of the scale of trade between the two countries. According to the results of a tentative calculation by the Commercial Resource Agency, one year after establishing diplomatic relations, China has grown to be our number-three trading partner in the scale of direct trade. This year, through June, the scale of direct trade between Korea and China reached a total of \$4.233 billion. Thus, China occupied the position of third-largest trading partner, after the United States and Japan, for the first time.

Rather than the present figures themselves, we need to consider the growth rate of South Korea-Chinese trade. Including indirect trade, total trade between the two countries at the end of 1990 was \$3.82 billion. After the installation of trade missions with quasi-diplomatic functions in Seoul and Beijing in 1991, trade started to grow rapidly. Trade between the two countries, which had been marking time at \$3.09 billion in 1988 and \$3.14 billion in 1989, recorded prodigious 51 percent growth rate over the previous year, reaching \$5.77 billion in 1991. Also, the gradually increasing rate of direct trade, which in the past had been absolutely dependent on indirect trade through Hong Kong, greatly expanded. Total trade for 1992 alone was \$8.21 billion. This is a growth of 41 percent over the previous year. Last year in particular recorded spectacular trade growth. In the past, South Korea had to be willing to accept a trade deficit due to the import of raw materials, etc., from China. However, last year exports to China grew a considerable 89 percent, recording a trade surplus of \$770 million.

In this, the first year of diplomatic relations, this trend in South Korea-Chinese trade is expanding. Exports are continuing their amazing growth, now over 100 percent above last year. If the present trend continues, combined with indirect trade, it will reach at least \$13 billion, according to the outlook of government sources.

No less than the expansion of their economic relationship, the closeness of the relationship between Korean and Chinese diplomatic authorities is growing with time. A simple evidence of this is the frequency of the talks between the two countries' foreign ministers, held three times, since North Korea's withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT]. Korean and Chinese foreign ministers met and held talks for the first time in early October, 1991. Talks between the Korean and Chinese foreign ministers have been held nine times in the less than two years since then, including the four held this year. Of course, the number of meetings is not important. Now, however, discussions between the two countries' diplomatic leaders can be even more significant since they have gone beyond secret discussions on diplomatic ties held on the pretext of participation in international meetings, to the stage of searching for a common solution to their problems. In particular, the talks between foreign ministers, held three times since the birth of the new administration, were all for the purpose of discussing the question of a "solution to the North Korean nuclear problem." The formulation, through this, of general principles for a system of international cooperation on the North Korea nuclear problem is an important guide post for judging the future South Korea-Chinese relationship.

The numerous stories of discord in Chinese-North Korea relations spreading among diplomats in Seoul, Beijing, and at the UN are also worthy of note. One incident considered to be a representative symptom of this occurred last May while North Korea deputy foreign minister Kim Yong-nam, who had just visited Indonesia to participate in a conference of nonaligned nations, was staying in Beijing. It is reported that Kim returned to Pyongyang without ever leaving the Beijing Airport itself. It is said that this was because the Chinese refused to let him appear in Beijing. This Chinese attitude toward Deputy Minister Kim, who represented North Korea foreign policy, is significant for various reasons. Lacking official statements from both sides, further details are unknown, but symptoms of problems between North Korea and China are being discovered everywhere.

Then, did China abandon North Korea for South Korea? If not, is it at least going through a process of preparation to choose South Korea as Russia did? An incident occurred last 27 July allowing us to guess at the inner thoughts of the present Chinese Government. This was the participation by politburo Central Standing Committee member Hu Tao-jin, a figure ranked about tenth in China's internal power structure, in a function at the memorial of Chinese participation in the Korean War built in the Dandong region of China near Sinuiju. Hu justified their participation in the Korean War as a "war to aid resistance to America." He frequently stressed that there had been no change in the North Korea-Chinese relationship; China was still a socialist country. China has been thoroughly applying to the Korean Peninsula its old "Principle of Equal Distance." Considering the above attitudes, prospects are that this principle will also continue into the future for a considerable period. About the same time, China returned the remains of Pak Un-sik and four others of the provisional government to South Korea. It is also maintaining its stance of strong opposition to North Korea nuclear development no less than any other country.

This is very disconcerting for our diplomats. Even so, they do not feel frustrated or think that this situation must be immediately corrected. In view of stark international realities, they consider this to be "only natural." "Gradually demonstrating how important relations are with the four super powers, especially those with both the great powers of East Asia—China and Japan—is the present course of South Korea-Chinese relations," said Ministry of Foreign Affairs East Asian Division II director Om Sok-jong, diplomat in charge of foreign affairs with China.

Then what is the level of our thus important diplomacy toward China? To know this, we must first understand the unique character of South Korea-Chinese relations. At the time South Korea reopened diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union (the present Russian Federation), the relationship between the two countries had been completely severed. There was no one in Korea with a good command of Russian. It was difficult to discover any tie connecting the two countries. This can be clearly seen in the present quarrel between them over the site of the old Russian mission in Chong-dong, Seoul. Russia was unable to produce evidence that it had purchased the land; it was difficult for the Korean Government to accept the sudden Russian claim on land already put to other uses. This is the difference between Russia and China. On 23 September 1992, one month after reopening formal diplomatic ties with South Korea, the Chinese moved into the Chinese Embassy in Myongdong, Seoul—a very high-priced plot of land. Until only a month before, this had been the place used by Taiwan to represent China. Paradoxically, in our diplomacy, Taiwan has played the role of intermediary. Most of the people in our government responsible for Chinese affairs went through Taiwan. They sought to understand China by studying Chinese in Taiwan, at a time in which an advance into the continent was impossible.

There had not been even one Russian-language expert at the time relations were established. At the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, however, there are over 30 people studying Chinese. In particular, secretary Yi Yong-paek of the Korean embassy in China is a representative linguistics expert, with a command of Chinese no less than that of a native. Also, it is explained that the young diplomats presently at the embassy in China at least are not suffering because of language difficulties. It is pointed out that language skill is lacking only at the level of councilor, which requires vigorous activity.

Linguistic skill, however, does not signify diplomatic skill. Former ambassador to China No Chae-won's appointment to represent Korea in Beijing was because he had been a representative at the trade mission there in early 1990. Afterwards, the Korean diplomatic offices in Beijing quickly expanded. Before the establishment of formal diplomatic relations in August of last year, the mission had already been enlarged to a medium scale with over 16 officers. The present embassy has grown into a large-scale mission with over 30 people, coming close to the scale of the Washington and Tokyo missions.

However, it is reported that the activity of our Beijing trade mission before diplomatic relations were established did not meet headquarters' expectations. This phenomenon appeared as the Beijing mission was being organized around people with experience in Taiwan or Hong Kong, mostly as special Chinese-speaking reporters. This went so far that, as the negotiations on establishing full diplomatic relations drew near, former foreign minister Yi Sang-ok even sent Kim Ha-jung, who at that time in February of last year was councilor at the Korean embassy in Japan, to the scene of the negotiations. Thus, at the time of the reorganization of the embassy to China after the establishment of diplomatic relations, first concern was given to how to effectively combine "grounding in Chinese language specialization" and "overall knowledge of diplomacy" to produce "quality management." Overall knowledge of diplomacy is none other than negotiation experience in the main centers of diplomacy, the United States, the United Nations and Japan.

At present, China is one of the most popular missions in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Although not as popular as Washington, New York, and Tokyo, many diplomats would prefer to work in China. The supply of them, however, is still insufficient. Last 14 July, the first consulate general was established in Shanghai. The government plans to set up two additional consulates general in Panyang and Guangzhou by the end of this year. It may be over doing it for them to think they can satisfy the demand for personnel this will cause.

Another great problem is the lack of actual experience in Beijing, capital of the last remaining great socialist power. When we consider that what is needed is not what one can learn by study, such as the unique diplomatic practices of each country, but a physical acquisition of knowledge through actual experience in country, we can see that our Chinese diplomats' feel for the place is still only at a rudimentary level. This is because, while they were learning Chinese in Taiwan and Hong Kong, they could only view the continent from afar. Also, it was not only that they were recorded as specialists on China and volunteered for duty, they clung to their Chinese duties when it was thought that a relationship with mainland China might someday be formed. As proud and competitive diplomats, this was incomparably frustrating for them. Thus, to more accurately describe our present diplomatic efforts toward China, there are people fluent in Chinese and with Chinese-work experience, but diplomats skilled enough to be called Chinese experts are rare. It is pointed out that more time is needed until these problems are resolved.

When the political trends surrounding the Korean Peninsula and the future economic development of the Asian-Pacific region is given overall consideration, the significance of China is enormous. The speed of their economic growth, their potential, and their gradually modernizing military are definitely not problems we can look on "as one watches a fire from across a river." Thus, more than ever before, research on integrated and systematic approaches to China is urgently needed.

Hyundai Seeks Approval To Export Cars to PRC SK1210035493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0147 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Beijing, Oct. 12 (YONHAP)—South Korean automobiles are set to make their legal debut on China's roads early next year.

Hyundai Motor Co. has officially applied for advancement and the Beijing Government is expected to give approval as early as the year-end, a company source said on Monday.

Korean vehicles have already hit the roads in China after being imported by irregular means. Hyundai anticipates substantial customs and various tariff benefits from normal car exports, the source said.

Seoul and Beijing have reportedly agreed on countertrade of Korean cars in principle, and such cooperation will pave the way for Korean automakers to secure assembly plants in China sooner than expected, he said.

To develop its automaking industry, China bans foreign car manufacturing on its soil apart from six automakers already in business there and imposes tariffs on imports that are some 300 percent of the car price.

Beijing is considering revising its protective industry program in a way that allows limited market access by foreign automakers in preparation for rejoining the general agreement on tariffs and trade, the source said.

With a change of policy, Korean automakers will be able to advance into the vast Chinese market, but fierce competition among Korean companies is likely because of the limited access, he said, calling for government coordination beforehand.

Japan, with government and industry in solidarity, is making active efforts to build car assembly lines in China.

A concrete outcome is expected after a visit by Japanese International Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshi Kumagai that began Sunday, followed by a giant economic delegation.

Daewoo Motor Co. has not applied for formal approval, but is making gradual steps toward advancement, having already gotten an institute of China's State Administration of Import and Export Commodities inspection test for 700 cars shipped via Najin in North Korea.

Kim Yong-sam Meets Japanese Keidanren Group SK1410121593 Seoul YONHAP in English 1051 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 14 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam met visiting leaders of the Japan Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) at Chongwadae on Thursday afternoon and exchanged opinions with them on ways to further promote economic cooperation between the two neighboring countries.

President Kim told the Japanese visitors that the two countries could forge closer cooperative relations now that new governments have set in in both countries, Chongwadae spokesman Yi Kyong-chae said.

The president noted that the birth of the Hosokawa Government represents a change of Japan and the civilian-led government of Korea, too, seeks to move forward through reforms.

He said that if and when the two countries advance to third countries in joint schemes, it would bring much benefits to both countries.

Japan should also pay due attention to the need to rectify chronic trade imbalance and transfer advanced industrial knowhow to Korea. Kim said.

Kaishi Hiraiwa, Keidanren president, said that his federation works to elevate cooperation with its Korean counterpart, Federation of Korean Industries (FKI), in a more practical manner.

Romania To Sign Double Taxation Prevention

SK1110120593 Seoul YONHAP in English 1031 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 11 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Romania concluded a bilateral agreement on the prevention of double taxation in Seoul on Monday.

The agreement was signed by South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu and visiting Romanian Minister of Trade Cristian Ionescu.

The taxes whose dual taxation will be prevented under the agreement will be income, corporate and resident taxes for Korea, and individual income tax, taxes on corporate and organization profits and dividend tax for Romania.

Joint Fishery Talks With Russia Set for Nov SK1310023093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0147 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 12 (YONHAP)—The Korea-Russia fishery meeting postponed because of political turmoil in Moscow is now likely to take place in the middle of November, Fisheries Administration officials said Wednesday.

Russia's fisheries commission has informed Seoul that it wants the meeting in November through the South Korean embassy in Moscow and the Korean Government will accept the Russian offer. Details will be announced after consultations, the officials said.

The joint fisheries committee meeting was initially set for Oct. 11-16 in Seoul to discuss resumption of fishing in the Okhotsk Sea and next year's pollack quota.

Domestic consumption of pollack is around 500,000 tons a year and Korean fishermen have caught an average 200,000 tons of pollack in the Okhotsk Sea until last year.

Korean fishing vessels, however, had to stop fishing in the sea in April at the request of the Russian Government.

Meanwhile, the second multilateral meeting to discuss resumption of fishing in the Okhotsk Sea will be Oct. 25-29 in Moscow with delegates from South Korea, China, Japan, Russia and Poland attending.

Kim Tae-chung's Tour 'Achieved Results'

SK1410031693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0051 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 14 (YONHAP)—"I have achieved results in this overseas tour, which was more than I expected," former Korean opposition leader Kim Taechung said at his home Wednesday. "The Asia-Pacific peace foundation that I want to build is well known to the world."

Kim met with German President Richard von Weizsacker, Former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and
Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter on his tour, and
exchanged views with them on North Korea's nuclear
development, unification of the Korean peninsula, the
situation and democratization in the Asia-Pacific region,
the U.S. role in Asia and the new world order.

"I will invite Weizsacker, Gorbachev, Carter, and Former German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher to Seoul next year for a seminar on unification of the Korean peninsula and peace in Asia," he said.

"I met with officials of 20-odd research institutes in the tour and they were willing to cooperate with the Asia-Pacific peace foundation. When I dropped in on Tokyo, I was invited to attend a seminar on peace in Asia and human rights in Manila in March next year, and I accepted," he said.

The Asia-Pacific peace foundation will be officially set up late this year or early next year, he said.

Asked the possibility of visiting North Korea, he said he has no intention of meeting North Korean leader Kim Il-song before a Seoul-Pyongyang summit is realized.

Touching on the opposition Democratic Party [DP]'s policies on resolving past irregularities and dispatching Korean troops to Somalia, he said: "Ask the DP spokesman. I do not want to be involved in such an affair."

Kim met with officials of the Japanese National Police Agency in Tokyo to explain his abduction by the Korean Central Intelligence Agency in 1973. He returned to Korea on Wednesday.

President Meets With Venezuelan Foreign Minister

SK0810143893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0829 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 8 (YONHAP)—Venezuelan Foreign Minister Fernando Ochoa Antich paid a courtesy call on President Kim Yong-sam to exchange views on bilateral economic cooperation between Korea and Venezuela and international issues such as North Korean nuclear issue Friday.

Minister [Ochoa] Antich told the South Korean leader that the people of Venezuela are "deeply impressed" by the reform policies which the Korean Government is pushing for.

The Venezuelan official, who arrived here on Thursday for the three-day visit, expressed his "firm" support for South Korea's position on the North Korean nuclear issue, presidential aides said.

Thai Deputy Foreign Minister To Visit 7 Oct SK0410060293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0543 GMT 4 Oct 93

[Text] Bangkok, Oct. 4 (YONHAP)—Thai Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan will visit Seoul on Oct. 7-10 to discuss issues of mutual interest, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Monday.

Phitsuwan is to talk with South Korean Foreign Ministry officials about the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit to be held in Seattle, Washington, next month, East Asian security, and economic cooperation between Korea and Thailand. He will explain to the officials the Thai position on Myanmar's admission to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

During his four-day stay, Phitsuwan is also scheduled to deliver a speech on relations between South Korea and Thailand and between South Korea and ASEAN to the Korean Association of Southeast Asian Studies.

Former Korean War POW's Visit Seoul

SK1410065093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0617 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 14 (YONHAP)—When the shooting ceased in the Korean war under an armistice in July 1953, there were 76 North Korean prisoners of war who neither returned home nor remained in South Korea but opted to desert their fatherland and go to a neutral country.

On Wednesday, 28 of these deserters arrived in Seoul at the invitation of Munhwa Broadcasting Corp. [MBC]

and set foot on Korean soil for the first time in 40 years. MBC aired a documentary on their lives in June to mark the 43rd anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean war.

"We are worthless people who defected from the fatherland and thus brought a shame on the Korean people, and we are far from being called warriors of the Korean war," Chu Yong-pok, 67, told a press conference at the Tower Hotel.

Chu, who went to the United States, was an Army lieutenant colonel when he surrendered to the South Korean Army. What he found in the South was not freedom, but angry South Korean soldiers who called him "a red" and who beat and kicked him.

He said he asked himself, "Where should I go?"

Hyon Tong-hwa, 61, went to India. Today he is running a trading house named New Korea Trading Co.

"A bloody ideological battle was fought in the POW camps in those days that is beyond the imagination of the younger generation of today," Hyon said. "I made up my mind to leave the country for good, hoping to continue my studies in Mexico, but I somehow ended up in India."

On July 27, 1953, an armistice was signed and prisoners of war were exchanged. North Korean POW's had three choices: Return to North Korea, become a South Korean citizen, or go to a third country through India.

Although all North Korean prisoners were free to go to a third country under the Armistice Agreement, not all of them were given the opportunity. Only those who befriended interpreters or other members of the U.N. command ever heard of the offer.

Chong Chu-won, 61, of Argentina said that a U.N. command officer whom he had befriended told him he had a right to go to a third country and when he told this to his fellow prisoners, he was beaten almost to death by pro-North loyalists as a pro-South traitor to the revolutionary cause.

"The beating made me to decide to go to a neutral country," he said.

Im Yi-ho, 68, of Brazil told the news conference that the brutality of the prisoners in the camps opened his mind.

"I was greatly disillusioned by the fact of fighting and killing between the same people," he said.

The Rev. Yi Chun-hui, 57, of Brazil said that he decided to go abroad for study because there was no hope in his war-devastated country.

Ten former North Korean POW's refused MBC's invitation to visit Seoul, including Chi Ki-chol, a successful businessman in India, and the Rev. Mun Myong-chol of Brazil. "It appears that they refused the invitation because they still think they were right to defect from Korea," an MBC spokesman said.

Chang Ki-hwa, 66, who lives as an "untouchable" in India with his Indian wife, could not come because he has no nationality. MBC is working for his permanent return to Korea.

Kim Man-su, 60, is in a mental hospital in Brazil after having killed a Japanese for showing contempt for him as a Korean. Roman Catholic Cardinal Stephen Kim Su-hwan is trying to arrange his return to Korea.

The 28 former POW's will visit Panmunjom and tour internment camps on Koje-do before returning to their countries on Oct. 20.

Further on Inter-Korean Prisoner Repatriation

SK1410013793 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
14 Oct 93 p 2

[Text] The Unification Ministry said yesterday that it will not consider a request by the North Korean Red Cross to repatriate two defiant communists to the North.

The North Korean Red Cross Chairman Yi Song-ho sent a letter to his southern counterpart Kang Yong-hun Tuesday [12 October] requesting repatriation of Ham Sae-hwan and Kim In-so to the North.

In the letter, Yi said, "I hope the Korea National Red Cross will actively help them return to North Korea where their families and relatives are awaiting."

A ranking Unification Ministry official flatly turned down the demand by saying the government will not consider repatriation of any more defiant communists. The government allowed Yi In-mo to return to North in May.

"Yi's case was special step to break the ice in relations between the South and the North following the inauguration of the Kim Yong-sam government," he added.

"Ham and Kim got Korean nationalities voluntarily and they violated domestic law by killing innocent people while fighting as communist partisans in the South after the Korean War (1950-1953)," the official said.

According to the Ministry, Kim, who is 67 years old and also called Kim Kuk-hong, joined the regular North Korean Army during the war and has two daughters and two younger sisters in the North. He was in prison for about 30 years.

Ham followed almost the same life course as Kim and served in prison for 35 years. He is 61 years old.

"The issue has to be dealt with between the Governments of the South and the North, not between the Red Cross societies of the two countries," the official said. However, he left some room for reconsideration, saying, "We could consider their return from the viewpoint of equity if the North accepts our demands to set up a meeting place at the truce village of Panmunjom, exchange hometown visitors, and release crew members of Tongjin-ho captured by the North Korean Navy in 1987.

President Vows To Give Support to Industries SK1110121493 Seoul YONHAP in English 1142 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 11 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam said on Monday his government would give all available policy support to industries so that they can engage in economic activities free of concern.

In a special interview with the Korea Economic Daily on its 29th anniversary, Kim said he would concentrate on easing the difficulties of industries if only to prompt economic invigoration.

The president said such measures could include alleviation of various industry-related controls and raising of new funds to finance the badly needed expansion of social overhead capital.

He said the reforms his government has undertaken have reaped hoped-for achievements. "The reforms are moving in a rightful direction at a proper speed," he said.

Kim said that at the moment he feels no need to take further supplementary steps over the real name financial transaction system.

But, the president did not rule out such measures completely. "It would be natural for the government to take remedial steps if there pop up ill effects in the implementation of a policy," he said.

President Kim said there is the need to concentrate limited resources more effectively through the specialization of business lines.

"Our large industries should further rationalize their management and disseminate their ownership widely so as to grow themselves into citizens' industries," Kim said.

On the question of possible use of foreign workers in the country, the president said they may be helpful on a short-term basis.

"On a far-reaching basis, however, their use could work to delay the projected streamlining of our industrial structure," President Kim said.

Former Defense Minister Given Suspended Sentence

SK1210040393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0253 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 12 (YONHAP)—The Seoul District Criminal Court sentenced former Defense Minister Yi Sang-hun to three years in prison with a four-year stay of execution and fined him 30 million won (37,000 U.S. dollars) on Tuesday.

Yi was convicted of violating laws on additional punishment of specific crimes by receiving bribes in connection with the Yulgok project.

"The defendant denies some of the charges, but was proven to have received bribes and embezzled money by confessions of related persons," the ruling said.

"But the receiving of bribes was not directly related to his job and he repents deeply, so his sentenced is suspended."

Yi had been indicted on charges of taking 30 million won in bribes from the chairman of Hyundai Precision and Industry Co., Chong Mong-chun, in March 1990, and pocketing 120 million won that Daewoo Group Chairman Kim U-chung had asked him to give to Rep. Chong Ho-yong.

Accused of Receiving Bribes

SK1310094693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0303 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 13 (YONHAP)—Rep. Kang Su-yim accused former Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku of receiving bribes of 3.6 billion won (4.4 million U.S. dollars) in connection with the Yulgok project alone on Wednesday.

The Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI) has accused Yi of taking 780 million won in bribes.

"Yi's bank account, where the 780 million won was deposited, contains at least 3.6 billion won but the source is unclear," Yi [as received] said during parliamentary inspection of the BAI. "So it is likely to be other bribes in connection with the Yulgok project.

"Besides Yi, former Air Force Chief of the General Staff Han Chu-sok played an important role in changing the next-generation Korean fighter from the F-18 to the F-16 and Han is brother-in-law of Ma Chong-kuk, who was an agent here of General Dynamics, manufacturer of the F-16.

"Much of the bribes that Han received were deposited in Ma's bank accounts, so it is likely that General Dynamics gave a bank account with a big deposit to Han," Kang charged.

No Hanahoe Members Slated for Promotion to General

SK1210095693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0935 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 12 (YONHAP)—The Ministry of National Defense on Tuesday released the list of 62 colonels and captains set for promotion to brigadier general and commodore next year. The total includes 43 Army colonels, 10 Navy captains and nine Air Force colonels.

The number represents a decline of 11 from last year's, which was due to the government policy to reduce the number of general-grade officers down to the authorized strength step by step.

The Army colonels picked up for promotion include 31 military academy graduates, four ROTC officers and eight graduates from other officers' schools.

Ten Army colonels who once belonged to the Hanahoe club, a private organization in the Army, were wholly excluded from being considered for promotion.

Provincial Public Officials Face Asset Inspection SK1110090993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0836 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 11 (YONHAP)—Many public officials and councilors on the nation's 15 city and provincial administrations, suspected of profiting from land speculation and other questionable activities, are likely to be inspected and reprimanded by the public servants' ethics committee.

The first asset disclosure of local officials, which ended Monday, also raised the issue of a conspicuous wealth gap between urban and rural areas, and this must be tackled before the introduction of a full-fledged autonomy system.

Seoul, first among all cities and provinces in financial independence at 98.9 percent, had nine officials with assets of more than 10 billion won (12.3 million U.S. dollars) and 21 with more than 5 billion won.

Taegu, No. 2 with the 91.2 percent self-financing, listed 19 officials with assets of more than 5 billion won, followed by Pusan at 89.1 percent and 25 officials over 5 billion won.

Kyonggi, sixth with 80.7 percent, listed 24 multibillionaires.

North Cholla, 14th at 35.7 percent, had just one person with assets of more than 5 billion won and South Cholla, with the lowest self-financing rate, produced three. Taejon and Kangwon each disclosed two officials worth more than 5 billion won.

City and provincial councilors are much better off than their counterparts in the lower-level councils, public servants or education commissioners.

Because many public servants of substantial means possess great amounts of land in high-priced areas of Seoul, Cheju and Kyonggi in the names of their children and spouses, they will not be able to escape suspicion that they were less than honest in reporting their assets, observers say.

Officials of the central government and other organizations, whose financial assets accounted for 14 percent of their registered wealth, are likely to be inspected afresh in view that the rate proved to be as high as 20 percent in case of provincial public officials.

Inspecting Projects for Cost Efficiency Stressed SK1110085493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0744 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 11 (YONHAP)—The Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI) will shift its focus to auditing major ongoing public works projects for cost efficiency, rather than on completed projects to find fault and bring to task those responsible.

BAI Chairman Yi Hor chang told a staff meeting Monday to seek ways to audit major ongoing public projects to prevent the waste of money by loose or wrong management.

The BAI will thus inspect such big projects as construction of the high-speed Seoul-Pusan railway, the International Airport on Yongjong Island, additional Seoul subway lines and facilities in major ports. The Board is collecting data on these projects and will inspect them when deemed necessary, BAI officials said.

Inspections will focus not on finding fault or punishing those responsible, but on helping managers increase cost efficiency, they added.

In the case of the high-speed railway project, BAI inspectors may look into why the TGV [high-speed train] of France was chosen as the priority negotiator, they said. They may also question how the site of the Yongjong Airport was procured, and study the design and financing plan for the airport.

The Transportation Ministry and other government agencies in charge of these projects are reportedly opposed to the auditing policy shift, saying inspection of ongoing projects may result in delays if the BAI recommends modifications in design or schedule.

Prosecution Seeks 7-Year Sentence for Businessman

SK1110121593 Seoul YONHAP in English 1145 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 11 (YONHAP)—The prosecution demanded seven years in prison for Chong Chu-yong.

honorary chairman of the Hyundai Business Group, on charges of embezzlement and election law violations at a Seoul District Criminal Court trial on Monday.

Chong is accused of using 50.9 billion won illicitly raised by Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. for his campaign during the presidential election late last year.

"I am demanding a heavy punishment because Chong mobilized both manpower and funds of the Hyundai group to stage corrupt electioneering and to deal much damage to the national economy," said prosecutor Ham Ki-yong of the Seoul district prosecutor's office.

Chong said at the trial he was sorry to the people and Hyundai people for failing to fulfill a businessman's role to the end and causing controversies.

Government Appoints, Replaces Ambassadors SK1110093393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0847 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 11 (YONHAP)—Ambassadors to eight countries, one consul-general and ministers at two embassies were replaced Monday.

The ambassadors were summoned back to the Foreign Ministry for reassignment, a Ministry official said.

Yi Won-ho, a research commissioner at the Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security, was named ambassador to Denmark.

Kang Sin-song, director-general of the Ministry's Consular and Overseas Residents Affairs Bureau, was named ambassador to Chile.

Kim Chang-kon, minister at the embassy in Moscow, became ambassador to Kazakhstan and was replaced by Kim Myong-pae, a Ministry official.

Choe Sung-hong, director-general of the European Affairs Bureau, was appointed ambassador to Hungary, and Choe Tae-hwa, consul-general in Houston, became ambassador to Norway.

Pak Yang-chun, minister at the embassy in Britain, replaced Choe Tae-hwa, and was in turn replaced by Hwang Kyu-chong, a Ministry official.

Kwon Sun-tae, director-general of the Cultural Affairs Bureau, was appointed ambassador to Kenya while Cho Ki-il, special adviser on foreign relations to the mayor of Taegu, was appointed ambassador to Dominica.

Hong Chong-pyo, director-general of the Ministry's International Trade Bureau, became ambassador to Sri Lanka.

Uribyol II Sends Pictures of Taean Peninsula SK1410033693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0240 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Taejon, South Korea, Oct. 14 (YONHAP)—South Korea's second satellite has transmitted clear pictures of the Taean peninsula to the satellite research center of the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST), center officials said Thursday.

Uribyol II took the photographs from about 800 kilometers above the Korean peninsula at 11:23:30 AM on Monday, 15 days after it was launched on Sept. 26.

The photographs show an area 100 km by 130 km of South Chungchong Province, and clearly visible are Mt. Chilgap, several densely populated areas and some islands.

"They are black and white pictures, but sooner or later the satellite will send us color pictures as well," a center spokesman said.

Sep Trade Surplus Marks First for 1993 SK1410123893 Seoul YONHAP in English 1125 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 14 (YONHAP)—South Korea recorded a trade surplus of 235 million dollars in September. It was the first month to register a surplus so far this year.

A trade report released by the Customs Administration on Thursday said exports in September reached 7,254 million dollars on a customs clearance basis and imports 7,019 million dollars.

A month earlier in August, the country's trade showed a deficit of 43 million dolairs.

In the first nine months of this year, there was a trade deficit of 2,652 million dollars with exports totaling 59,428 million dollars and imports 62,080 million dollars.

The January-September deficit represented a decline of 50.8 percent from the like period of last year.

As for trade with major trading countries, a surplus of 5,315 million dollars was recorded with Hongkong and Singapore in the nine-month period, a 363-million-dollar surplus with the United States, and a surplus of 850 million dollars with China.

On the other hand, a deficit of 6,402 million dollars was registered with Japan and a deficit of 892 million dollars with the European community.

Country's Labor Productivity 'Lags Behind'

SK0910114093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0959 GMT 9 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 9 (YONHAP)—South Korea far lags behind the members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), which Seoul hopes to join by 1996, in labor productivity of manufacturing industry.

According to a comparative report on 1993 labor productivity by Japan's productivity office revealed by the Foreign Ministry Saturday, Korea's blue-collar rate stood at 54 when Japan was set at 100.

Belgium was tallied way up at 112, Spain and Italy at 105, the United States at 102, Britain at 100, and France at 97.

In comparison of per capita real gross domestic product of employees, Korea lagged at 57 while Belgium and France recorded 127, Canada and Italy, 123, the United States, 120, Germany 114, and Sweden, 86.

When Japan, who marked the lowest labor productivity in the agriculture, fisheries, and forestry industry among OECD members, was considered at 100, Korea was tallied at 66, compared with 255 of the United States and 245 of Belgium.

Korea did relatively better in construction industry, marking 70, not far from 78 of the United States, 82 of Sweden, 91 of Italy, and 93 of France.

In service field that includes financial, insurance, real estate, and business industry, Korea was 55, trailing Britain with 75, the United States with 82, and Germany with 107.

In transportation, warehouse, and communications sector, Korea made 83, while Belgium was 146, followed by the United States with 141, Britain with 136, and Germany with 113.

Japan's comparison is not absolute, but it is true Korea's labor productivity is low than advanced countries, a Foreign Ministry official said.

"We have to acknowledge the fact and work toward improving productivity in order to win OECD membership," he said.

Burma

Delegates Return From World Bank-IMF Meeting

BK1310144393 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] A Myanmar [Burmese] delegation led by Brigadier General Win Tin, minister of finance and revenue, returned to Yangon [Rangoon] by air via Singapore this evening after attending the World Bank-IMF annual meeting held in Washington in the United States of America.

While attending the annual meeting, the Myanmar delegation met and held talks with executive directors and senior officials from the World Bank and IMF. The Myanmar delegation explained the economic programs being implemented as part of Myanmar's economic reforms, the progress of projects funded by the World Bank, and monetary assistance and technical cooperation from the IMF.

On its return journey, the delegation went on a study tour and held discussions on financial management, inspection, and control at the central bank [as heard] in New York.

The members of the Myanmar delegation met and held talks with responsible personnel from the United Nations Development Program headquarters on the Administrative Council's aid to Myanmar. The delegation had a similar meeting with responsible personnel from UNICEF.

The delegation visited Singapore on the return journey and studied monetary policies, banking activities, financial security, and administration activities at the Singapore Monetary Board, Singapore Monetary Authority, Central Bank, Singapore Development Bank, and other banking organizations. The delegation also held talks with the chairmen and responsible personnel on bilateral financial cooperation and training of bank employees.

Thai Firm Signs Tin Exploration, Mining Contract

BK1210155093 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Mr. (Rowithiawat Tanakun), chairman of Thailand's Roong Siam Mining Myanmar Company, Limited, called on Mines Minister Lieutenant General Kyaw Min at his office in Yangon [Rangoon] at 1000 this morning. Also present at the meeting were Deputy Minister of Mines U Hlaing Win; U Tin Win, managing director of the No. 2 Mining Enterprise; U Hla Sint, director general of the Planning and Inspection Department; and responsible personnel. The visitor was accompanied by Mr. (Phiphat), a member of the Board of Directors, and responsible personnel. Frank and cordial talks were held on a product-sharing joint venture in tin exploration and mining off the Tenasserim coast.

Next, a ceremony to sign the product-sharing contract for offshore tin mining operations between the Ministry of Mines' No. 2 Mining Enterprise and the Boong Siam Mining Myanmar Company, Limited, was held at the Ministry of Mines' Thiri Mingalar Hall. The ceremony was attended by Mines Minister Lt. Gen. Kyaw Min; Lt. Gen. Maung Thint, development of border areas and national races minister; Deputy Mines Minister U Hlaing Win; directors general and managing directors from enterprises and departments under the Mines Ministry; Thai Ambassador Mr. Wirasak Futrakun; Mr. (Rowithiawat Tanakun), chairman of the Roong Siam Mining Myanmar Company, Limited; and members. Mines Minister Lt. Gen. Kyaw Min delivered an address at the ceremony. U Tin Win, managing director of the No. 2 Mining Enterprise; Mr. (Rowithiawat Tanakun), chairman of the Roong Siam Mining Myanmar Company, Limited; and Mr. (Phiphat), member of the Board of Directors, also spoke.

Later, a product-sharing contract for tin exploration and mining operations off the Tenasserim coast was signed by U Tin Win and Mr. (Rowithiawat Tanakun). Notes were also exchanged.

In the evening, the chairman of Thailand's Roong Siam Mining Myanmar Company, Limited, hosted a dinner at the Inya Lake Hotel. The dinner was attended by Vice Admiral Maung Maung Khin and Lt. Gen. Tin Tun, both deputy prime ministers; Lt. Gen. Kyaw Ba, hotels and tourism minister; Lt. Gen. Maung Thint, development of border areas and national races minister; Mines Minister Lt. Gen. Kyaw Min; Labor Minister Lt. Gen. Aye Thaung; Brigadier General Abel, national planning and economic development minister; Brig. Gen. Lun Maung, minister in the Prime Minister's Office; U Soe Tha, communications, post, and telegraphs minister; Deputy Mines Minister U Hlaing Win; Deputy Information Minister U Thein Sein; directors general; and managing directors.

Bangladesh Returns 694 Refugees 9 Oct

BK1210145993 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] In accordance with the coordinated agreement reached between the two countries on the repatriation of those who illegally left Myanmar [Burma] for Bangladesh, a delegation led by camp supervisor Mr. (Hajibur Rahman) from the country on the other side transferred 694 returnees—345 males and 349 females—from 148 households to our Kanyinchaung reception center at 0950 on 9 October. The returnees were brought in by 15 motorboats, and the delegation left at 1400.

Repatriates 651 Returnees 12 Oct

BK1310142093 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] In accordance with the coordinated agreement reached between the two countries on the repatriation of

those who illegally left Myanmar [Burma] for Bangladesh, a delegation led by Camp Supervisor Mr. (Abdul Biakham) from the country on the other side transferred 651 returnees—318 males and 333 females—from 137 households to our Kanyinchaung reception center at 0930 on 12 October. The returnees were brought in by 16 motorboats.

Than Shwe Addresses Solidarity, Development Group

BK1410033393 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] A coordination meeting on matters related to formation of the Union Solidarity and Development Association [USDA] was held at 1340 today in the meeting room of the Office of the Commander in Chief of the Army. Senior General Than Shwe, patron of the USDA and commander in chief of the Defense Services, attended the meeting and delivered an address.

The meeting was attended by the Panel of Patrons of the association—Lieutenant General Maung Aye, deputy commander in chief of the Defense Services and commander in chief of the Army; Rear Admiral Than Nyunt, commander in chief of the Navy; Lt. Gen. Thein Win, commander in chief of the Air Force: Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt, chief of the Office of the Strategic Studies; Lt. Gen. Myint Aung, adjutant general; Major General Min Thein, quartermaster general; Lt. Gen. Tin U, chief of staff of the Army—as well as military commanders of military commands; U Than Aung, general secretary of the USDA and cooperatives minister; members of the secretariat-U Khin Maung Thein, minister of energy; U Win Sein, minister of rail transport; U Ko Lay, chairman of the Yangon [Rangoon] City Development Committee and mayor; and members of the Central Executive Committee—U Soe Tha, minister for communications, posts, and telegraphs; U Than Shwe, minister of industry-2; U Thein Sein, deputy minister of information; U Pan Aung, secretary of the Yangon City Development Committee: divisional commanders: and chairmen of divisional and state law and order restoration councils.

U Thein Sein, member of the USDA Central Executive Committee and deputy minister of information, acted as secretary of the meeting. Sr. Gen. Than Shwe, commander in chief of the Defense Services and patron of the association, spoke on forming the USDA at different levels, organizational and training activities, and on matters for obtaining qualified members capable of effectively implementing the five objectives of the association.

Minister U Than Aung, general secretary of the association, then explained the arrangements made for future association programs, which drew comments from those attending the meeting.

The meeting ended at 1530 after Sr. Gen. Than Shwe gave his closing remarks.

Fishing Vessels Warned To Avoid Drilling Site

BK1210150593 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] In accordance with the agreement reached between the Myanmar [Burma] Oil and Gas Enterprise and the Texaco Exploration Myanmar Corporation, test oil drilling will be carried out at concession sites M-12, M-13, and M-14 from 16 October to 20 November.

The Fisheries Department has issued a mariner notice today warning all fishing vessels to avoid the Yetagun-2 test oil drilling site at latitude 13 degrees 00 minutes 46.90 seconds north and longitude 96 degrees 51 minutes 39.68 seconds east.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Market Concessions Offered to GATT Official

BK1010075293 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 10 Oct 93

[Text] Malaysia is prepared to make more concessions for its market access for more products provided its major trading partners are prepared to do likewise for some of the products that are of interest to Malaysia. This was conveyed by International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Sri Rafidah Aziz to the director general of GATT, Mr. (Peter Sabalu), during his meeting with ASEAN economic ministers in Singapore.

Datuk Sri Rafidah said Malaysia had already offered a total of 3,700 items for concession and is prepared to review them from time to time. On financial services sector, particularly in banking and insurance, she said Malaysia subscribes to the principle of progressive liberalization. This is because the ratio of foreign participation in this area is already high. In the nonfinancial services sector, a much more liberal offer has already been made by Malaysia. The 25th meeting of ASEAN economic ministers ended in Singapore on a positive note.

Swiss Firms Explore Investment Potential

BK1310092093 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0746 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Oct. 13. (OANA-BERNAMA)— Switzerland is seriously looking at the possibility of investing more in the machinery, electronics, and chemical sectors here, its ambassador to Malaysia, Henri Cuennet, said Wednesday.

He said Switzerland was currently evaluating new business opportunities in the Southeast Asian region and Malaysia stood a good chance to receive part of the investments. He also said that Switzerland was also looking at enhancing its investments in manufacturing of watches here by upgrading its existing factories.

Cuennet was speaking at a press conference in conjunction with the end of a five-day visit by Swiss Minister of Economic Affairs Jean-Pascal Delamuraz here. Describing his visit as a great success, Delamuraz said [words indistinct] better government-to-government understanding and our private sectors have been showing keen interest to further intensify bilateral trade between the two countries.

Some have even started discussions with their potential partners here, he added.

The volume of trade between Switzerland and Malaysia has constantly increased over the last four years, generally at impressive growth rates.

Switzerland's exports to Malaysia amounted to RM [Malaysian ringgit] 1.438 billion (about U.S. \$575 million), while Malaysia's exports to the country last year (?reached) 221.761 million (about U.S. \$90 million).

Switzerland imports electrical household appliances, office equipment, and electronic components from Malaysia and exports chemicals, pharmaceuticals, telecommunications and [words indistinct] and distribution equipment, machine tools, and food-processing machinery to the country.

Delamuraz said the impressive success of Switzerland's industries in Malaysia was due to the inherent quality and precision offered by Swiss manufacturers as well as to their outstanding customer focus.

There are now 45 Swiss companies operating here, employing approximately 6,500 local workers.

Singapore

1994 Textile Export Quotas Revised Upward BK1310110293 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in

BK1310110293 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 13 Oct 93 p 36

[Text] The Trade Development Board (TDB) has revised upwards next year's textile export quotas.

Based on past performance, garment manufacturers' quotas will be increased from 75 percent to 80 percent next year, following a review of the Textile Quota Allocation System (TQAS).

Under an international agreement called the Multi-Fibre Arrangement, the European Community and the United States impose textile quotas on garment-producing countries to restrict textile imports into their markets. The TDB has been administrating the TQAS here since 1987.

In a statement yesterday, the TDB said the percentage of texile quotas to be allocated through tender has simultaneously been reduced from 25 percent to 20 percent. Export quotas not utilised by allottees wil be given to other manufacturers through a tender system.

The TDB statement also said that it will reduce the levy on the export quota from one percent to 0.75 percent next year. This levy will be based on the first tender price in 1994, or 0.75 percent of the average export price in the preceding year, whichever is lower.

From the 1995 quota year onwards, manufacturers who have utilised 90 percent or more of the preceding year's performance quota, will receive the same quota allocation as that for the preceding year.

The TDB said that these manufacturers would be given additional performance quotas equivalent to the growth rate as set out in the respective bilateral textile agreements.

Manufacturers who utilise less than 90 percent of their quota allocations next year will only be given quota allocations up to their actual performance levels in the following year.

Commenting on the TDB's review of the quota allocation, the president of the Textile and Garment Manufacturers Association of Singapore (TGMAS), Mr Chris Koh, said: "The refinement of the quota allocation guidelines will provide manufacturers with more stability in planning their business."

Progress of Third Satellite Earth Station Noted BK0810123393 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 8 Oct 93 p 3

[Text] Singapore's third satellite earth station, due to be operational next year, will be its largest. Although only two satellite antennae will be constructed initially, the Seletar station will be able to take up to nine 30-metre dishes. There are at present three such dishes at Sentosa and another three at Bukit Timah. The 9.7-ha [hectares] project, at the junction of Lentor Avenue and Seletar Expressway, will cost about \$170 million.

A Singapore Telecom spokesman said that with the third satellite earth station, customers could continue to expect high quality telecommunications. He said that the new station would ensure that Singapore's telecommunication infrastructure would be able to cope with increasing demand.

Last year, the number of outgoing international calls from Singapore (excluding those to Malaysia) rose by 18 percent, from 92.9 million to 109.6 million.

The Seletar station will support services like International Direct Dialling (IDD), international leased circuits, telex, facsimile and video conferencing. It will also be equipped to support television broadcast services. Work is expected to be completed by mid-1994 and the station will be operational by the end of that year.

Cambodia

Ranariddh Departs To Attend Francophone Summit

BK1410065993 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 14 Oct 93

[Text] First Prime Minister Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh and his wife left Phnom Penh at 1030 on 14 October for the Republic of Mauritius to attend the fifth summit conference of countries using the French language to be held from 14 to 18 October 1993. His Excellency [H.E.] Heng Vong-bunchhat, minister of higher education and technology, accompanied the prince on this trip.

Seeing Prince Kromluong off at Pochentong International Airport were H.E. Hun Sen, second prime minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia; H.E. Keat Chhon, deputy prime minister; ministers and deputy ministers from various ministries, and officials from the Khmer Royal Armed Forces.

Also on hand were representatives of various friendly embassies in the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Report on 1-7 Oct Action Against Khmer Rouge

BK0910053293 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] In the first week of October, our Khmer Royal Armed Forces [KRAF] units in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey, Kompong Thom, Kratie, Banteay Meanchey, and Battambang Provinces exerted their right of self-defense to protect the areas they control. They killed 14 Democratic Kampuchea [DK] soldiers and captured 23 others, received 74 returnees, and seized 116 firearms. Of these totals, Siem Reap Province killed 10 DK soldiers and captured 23 others, received four returnees, and seized 52 assorted guns; Kompong Thom Province killed three DK soldiers and received 23 returnees with 23 weapons; Kratie Province killed one DK soldier, received six returnees, and seized eight rifles; Banteay Meanchey Province received 14 returnees and seized 22 guns; and Battambang Province received 27 returnees bringing along 11 guns.

Khmer Rouge Military Activities Reported

First Week in Oct

BK0910053093 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] According to a report from the Third Department of the Khmer Royal Armed Forces [KRAF], in the first week of October the Army of Democratic Kampuchea [ADK] intensified its activities, encroaching upon many areas under the control of our KRAF. Notably, it committed serious violations in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey and Kompong Thom Provinces.

The report further said that the ADK aim was to capture the two provinces. After the KRAF exerted the right to defend themselves and the people, however, the ADK redirected its attacks and overran some areas in Stoung and Prasat Balang Districts in Kompong Thom Province.

As a matter of fact, on 2 October the ADK attacked the 179th Division's front-line command post at Ta Siem village in Svay Leu District. On the same day, some 70-100 ADK soldiers attacked and fired several 85-mm and 12.7-mm rounds on our KRAF near Khvav village. Our forces, exercising their right to self-defense, were able to effectively defend the position.

On 4 October, the ADK raided a KRAF base at Ta Kream, (O Choam), Russei Thom, and Thnal villages in Prasat Balang District of Kompong Thom Province. At present, our KRAF is resolutely protecting the residents of those villages.

In Battambang Province, the ADK was increasing its shipment of armaments, ammunition, and troops from an area near Malai Hill to Bavel District and an area south of National Route 10 in preparation for attacks on our positions and attempts to blow up railroads and bridges in Battambang Province.

4-11 Oct Activities Reported

BK1410032793 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] According to the Third Department of the Khmer Royal Armed Forces [KRAF], from 4 to 11 October the Army of Democratic Kampuchea [ADK] launched operations and committed violations in various areas, particularly in Banteay Meanchey, Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey, and Kompong Thom Provinces. The ADK fired artillery shells into KRAF positions on four occasions, launched eight infantry attacks, planted mines on three occasions, committed three robberies against inhabitants, and carried out six troop deployments.

At the same time in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, the ADK mustered forces to launch activities in outlying areas in the northern part of the province, especially in an attempt to seize Angkor Wat Temple in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey provincial seat. The ADK forces also attacked our KRAF at (Sre Samot), Lvea Krang, and Sre Leu.

In Banteay Meanchey Province on 5 October, the ADK destroyed with landmines bridges at Mongkolborei and (O Sniet) on Route 5 in Mongkolborei District. On the same day, the ADK fired several H-107 and 82-mm mortar shells into (?Nimit) in Sereisaophoan District, killing three people and wounding two.

In (Chit Kiri) area near the Thai border, the ADK sent small units on operations in villages and communes and plant mines on Route 69 from Banteay Chhma to Phum Ku.

In Stoung and Prasat Balang Districts of Kompong Thom Province, after our KRAF recaptured a number of positions and (?consolidated footing), the ADK mustered forces in an attempt to attack Popok.

On 5 October in Kompong Chhnang Province, some ADK forces (?attempted to cut off) the railway in Samakki Meanchey District.
rate 'Goodwill'

BK0910031493 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Unattributed "article": "Compromise Should Be Pondered"]

[Text] Cambodian watchers are awaiting the outcome of a roundtable meeting between the Royal National Government of Cambodia [RNGC] and Khmer Rouge Representative Khieu Samphan scheduled for November. It is not yet possible to foresee whether the meeting will take place. This is because—although lately Khieu Samphan has been seen to appear a little bit more flexible—the Khmer Rouge have not relaxed their muscles on the battlefield in the least. They are increasing their attacks on the Khmer Royal Armed Forces [KRAF] in areas controlled by the RNGC troops.

According to a report made available by the KRAF General Staff officials on 6 October, the Khmer Rouge were conducting vigorous attacks in Siem Reap and Kompong Thom Provinces. Their main objective was to attack and capture the province of Siem Reap. It was known that [Khmer Rouge commander] Ta Mok was in direct command of those strategic attacks. That being the case, it can be seen that the Khmer Rouge's political and military compromises are not consistent, thus proving that they have no intent whatsoever to achieve national reconciliation and unification and genuine peace.

All in all, we are of the opinion that in dealing with the Khmer Rouge, one should ponder seriously. For the Khmer Rouge themselves, they should, at this juncture, demonstrate their intentions to return to the national community through their concrete actions. If the Khmer Rouge do not reject anything that reduces the goodwill necessary for national reconciliation, they will certainly be punished severely.

Khmer Rouge Deny Launching Attack From Thailand

BK1410030193 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 13 Oct 93

["Denial of the spokesman of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea concerning an accusation that the NADK has made use of the Thai territory in carrying out activities"; dated 13 October; read by announcer]

- [Text] 1. Again recently, the Vietnamese and the evil allies ordered the Vietnamese puppets and some of their radio stations to accuse the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK] of using Thai territory in launching attacks on their positions here and there.
- 2. The NADK spokesman vehemently rejects this evil, groundless accusation. This accusation is just an obsolete political and diplomatic scheme that the Vietnamese communists, Vietnamese puppets, and evil allies used to carry out continuously in the past.
- 3. Whenever they suffered defeats in their attempts to seize the liberated zone from the national resistance forces and Cambodian people, the Vietnamese communists, their puppets, and evil allies always resorted to all evil and abject pretexts to conceal their shameful defeats.
- 4. The above accusation attests more clearly that the Vietnamese communists, their puppets, and evil allies are continuing to kindle the flames of war in Cambodia, including military, political, diplomatic, and propaganda wars, in an attempt to smash all national resistance and patriotic forces and swallow up Cambodia.

They do not hesitate to spread the war to Cambodia's neighboring country and to create insecurity and instability in this region.

[Dated] 13 October 1993 [Signed] The NADK spokesman

People Reportedly Demonstrate for Land Return

BK1110041993 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 10 Oct 93

[Text] On 4 October, between 0630 and 1200, over 200 people, comprising men, women, and elderly people, traveled from the end of Prek Aeng canal in Kien Svay District, Kandal Province, to stage a demonstration in front of Parliament. They held placards and slogans demanding the return of their land, which was plundered and sold by soldiers of the Phnom Penh side.

The people taking part in the demonstration said that over the past few years soldiers and the state authority of the Phnom Penh side plundered and sold nearly all the people's land. A few days ago, soldiers and the state authority of the Phnom Penh side also plundered the peoples' remaining small plots of land. The people are now landless; they have no village and no land to work on.

The activities of the soldiers and the state authority of the Phnom Penh side have enraged the people. The people have demonstrated in front of Parliament demanding the return of land to the people. These slogans were read: The new Constitution protects the people's farmland. The new Constitution protects the people's land ownership. People's representatives, go to see the people; do not just stay in Phnom Penh and say there is nothing.

Indonesia

Navy Seizes Two Thai Vessels Near Aceh

BK1210123293 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1210 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] Surabaya, E. Java, Oct. 12 (ANEX/ANTARA)—Indonesia's TNI-AL [National Navy] marine forces have arrested two vessels carrying Thai flags for illegally entering the Aceh waters in the western region of the country.

"The captains of the two ships will soon be brought to court," Vice Admiral Tanto Kuswanto said here Tuesday. Referring to another incident where local fishermen were allegedly shot by a foreign vessel around the Aceh waters, Kuswanto said his marine forces had yet to catch the culprit.

"TNI-AL will go on investigating the whereabouts of the vessel which entered Indonesian waters reportedly equipped with weapons," he said.

Meanwhile, Commander of the Western Fleet Rear Admiral Suratmin acknowledged that the limited personnel and the wide area of operation were some of the obstacles faced by marine patrols in implementing security measures in the country's waters.

Suratmin stressed that TNI-AL would always ensure protection against entry from foreign vessels.

Commander's 'Public Relations' Moves Viewed

BK1010113593 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 1 Oct 93 p 4

[Editorial: "Melting the Ice"]

[Text] A few months back, when the newly-appointed Chief of the Jakarta Military Command Major General Hendropriyono started his once-a-week coffee-morning sessions, many people raised their eyebrows. Previously several officials, for instance the provincial governors, had started similar programs. The main purpose of this approach is to enable the officials to personally meet and talk to the people living under their jurisdiction in order to learn of their views and to hear of any grievances directly.

But, to see a two-star general start his day by meeting with people off the street was really news. Particularly when the people he met with first were those who are considered pariahs, such as street vendors, or scavengers, and others with specific problems such as the teachers and parents of young people involved in student brawls.

However, because the sessions are open for the press to cover, many observers initially believed they were just a public relations gimmick.

Then, Hendropriyono, 48, who is known as a crack red beret soldier, made another surprising move: He paid a visit to Adnan Buyung Nasution, the noted human rights activist and chairman of the Legal Aid Institute whose harsh criticism of the government once earned him a travel ban.

This time, people were forced to take a second look at his actions. It was the first time in years that a high ranking security officer had met with a known critic. Some people interpreted the meeting as further evidence of the government's new policy of reconciliation. However, the security officers have yet to follow suit.

And it seems that despite these overtures to the public, Hendropriyono has not dropped his tough stance. In the wake of the initial enforcement of the new Traffic Law, he threatened to "bludgeon" anybody who tried to sabotage the new law. Then during the visit of the U.S. GSP [Generalized System of Preferences] team last week, he conceded that there have been indications of foreign hands in recent labor unrest, and he threatened to take firm measures.

More recently, in fact just the other day, Hendropriyono pulled another surprise when he invited Mochtar Pakpahan, the noted labor activist, who chairs the Prosperous Labor Union of Indonesia (SBSI), which has been branded illegal by the government. No statement was issued after their meeting, with Pakpahan commenting simply that: "Our relations are now thawing out."

Hendropriyono's willingness to meet with Pakpahan is really something to note. In the past, a meeting between a general, whose responsibilities include security matters, and a labor and human rights activist, who is alleged to be involved in "shady" activities, would have been unimaginable. Even if that had occurred previously, the meeting most likely would have taken place in an interrogation room.

We do not know for sure what is on Hendropriyono's mind. Perhaps he is playing a stick and carrot game. Perhaps, he just sincerely wants to open a dialog, thus avoiding having to resort to harsher measures.

But, whatever the motive, his initiative in speaking with the "opposition" earns him praise. By taking the straight route and seeking information from the right person he has prevented misunderstandings and quite likely has defused a volatile time bomb.

We would, therefore, like to encourage other security people to take Hendropriyono's new approach as an example. If, over coffee and "pisang goreng" (fried bananas), mutual understanding can be established between this senior military figure and people from diverse backgrounds, is there any reason why we should fail to take this approach ourselves? A lot of other problems could be solved in this manner.

Laos

IMF Delegates Pay Official Visit, Hold Talks

BK1010110793 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 10 Oct 93

[Text] While paying an official visit to Laos on 8 and 9 October at the invitation of the Lao Government, a high-level IMF delegation headed by IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus paid courtesy calls on President Nouhak Phoumsavan; Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon; National Assembly Chairman Saman Vignaket; and Khamphoui Keoboualapha, deputy prime minister and chairman of the Committee for Planning and Cooperation. The delegation also met and exchanged views with the high-level leadership of various concerned organizations, such as the Bank of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and the Foreign Ministry. The delegation also visited and toured some cultural establishments in Luang Prabang Province and Vientiane Municipality.

During their courtesy calls on the top-level LPDR Government leadership, Michel Camdessus and his party were accorded a warm and intimate welcome by each member of the Lao leadership in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding. Highly lauding the official visit to Laos by the high-level IMF delegation, our Lao leaders noted that the visit marked an important step in raising the status and role of Laos in the IMF. At the same time, the visit also provided a good opportunity for high-level officials of the two sides to meet and exchange views on various issues, especially certain financial matters and the utilization of IMF aid funds for socioeconomic development in Laos. Our Lao leaders informed the IMF delegation of the achievements and difficulties faced by Laos in carrying out our socioeconomic development programs. They thanked the IMF for its invaluable past assistance and expressed the hope that the world financial body will increase its aid to Laos in the near future so as to liberate the country from backwardness.

Michel Camdessus thanked the top-level Lao Government leadership and the Lao organizations concerned for their warm welcome. He hailed the apparent achievements made by the LPDR in carrying out economic reforms since applying the new economic management mechanisms to the country's economic management. The IMF managing director reaffirmed vigorous IMF support for the LPDR's current efforts and perseverance in implementing its socioeconomic development plans, especially in granting loans for ongoing development projects in Laos.

Achievements of DPRK Delegation's Visit Viewed

BK1310134193 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio
Network in Lao 1200 GMT 9 Oct 93

["Interview" with Chaleun Yiapaoheu, member of the National Assembly and chief of the National Assembly Secretariat Commission; place, date not given recorded]

[Text] During its visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly delegation headed by Assembly Chairman Yang Hyong-sop held talks and exchanged views with the Lao side on various issues. The following are some of the achievements:

- 1. The two sides maintained mutual understanding. They praised and hailed each other's achievements in developing and building their respective countries.
- The visit promoted and strengthened the solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between the two parties, states, and peoples of Laos and Korea.
- 3. The visit created a new and favorable atmosphere for relations between the legislative institutions of the two countries—the LPDR and the DPRK.

The two sides had the pleasure to note that the promotion and enhancement of friendship and solidarity led to the further expansion of the fine, time-honored traditions between the two countries. Noteworthy is that—following the visit to Korea by beloved and respected President Kaysone Phomvihan in 1991, during which he met with Kim Il-song, Great Leader of the Korean people—relations of friendship and solidarity between the Lao and Korean peoples have been increasingly promoted and strengthened. Since then, the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and the LPDR Government have taken turns sending delegations to visit Korea. In the near future, many high-ranking delegations from the two countries will exchange visits. All of this is in the interest of the two peoples.

In addition, the two sides reached a consensus on the world and regional situations, which have changed rapidly—both in positive and negative ways, and both favorably and unfavorably for the national defense and construction of the two countries.

These, briefly, were some successes of the high-level DPRK Supreme People's Assembly delegation's visit to Laos. I maintain that this has significantly encouraged the multiethnic Lao people to uphold and enhance their patriotic spirit, their spirit of cherishing the new system, their spirit of being owners of the country, their self-reliant spirit, and their spirit of building their own strength in order to build and securely defend their prosperous country.

SRV Control Committee Delegation Holds Talks

BK1310085193 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] This morning, a technical delegation from the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Control Committee—led by Nguyen Duc Trieu, member of the CPV Central Committee and of the Control Committee—held a meeting with a delegation from the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Control Committee of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] led by Dr. Davon Vongsak, alternate member of the party Central Committee and vice chairman of the Central Control Committee.

The CPV Control Committee delegation is currently on a friendship visit to the LPDR. The meeting will continue for two days. The Lao and Vietnamese delegations will exchange experiences on the implementation of party and state control work. They will also exchange views on opposing and preventing corruption in the two countries.

The CPV Control Committee delegation arrived in Vientiane at noon on 7 October.

Cuban Minister Sends Thanks for Aid Offer

BK1110111393 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] Recently, Comrade Roberto Robaina Gonzelez, foreign relations minister of the Republic of Cuba, sent a thank-you message to Comrade Somsavat Lengsavat, our foreign affairs minister.

The message reads: We are extremely gratified to learn about the virtuous and faithful position expressed by the Lao Government, party, and people toward the Cuban people by offering to render assistance to us to resolve the current difficulties facing our nation. Through this letter, I would like to directly convey the profound gratitude and thanks from our party, government, and people to you, Comrade. We value your faithful position as a symbol of steadfast solidarity and ardent friendship between our two countries.

Together with our profound thanks to you, Comrade, we would like to express our determination to continue working to further strengthen the relations of friendship and cooperation between our two parties, states, and peoples.

Mekong Delta Development Seminar, Plan Reviewed

BK1410073793 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] A delegation headed by Dr. Kithong Vongsai, vice chairman of the Planning and Cooperation Committee and chairman of the Lao National Mekong Committee; and Sitaheng Latsaphon, deputy minister of agriculture and forestry, attended the last session of a seminar to

devise a plan for guiding the development of the Mekong delta. The seminar was held in Ho Chi Minh City from 28 to 30 September.

The delegations of the Thai and Cambodian Mekong Committees and of the Secretariat of the International Mekong Committee—the coordinating body charged with implementing the plan—also attended the seminar. In addition, representatives of the UN Development Program responsible for mapping out the plan, and of the World Bank charged with executing the plan, and experts of the Dutch consulting company (Hedeko) contracted by the World Bank to lay out the plan and guidelines for its implementation, with close cooperation from Vietnamese technocrats concerned, also attended the seminar.

The plan for guiding the development of the Mekong delta has been incorporated into the overall development plan of the International Mekong Committee for three years now. The UN Development Program has provided more than U.S. \$3.7 million to finance this plan. The plan is also linked to the overall plan of the International Mekong Committee to develop the water resources in the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the northeast of Thailand, as well as several natural waterways around the Tonle Sap in Cambodia.

Regarding the plan to develop water sources in Laos, the European Community is expected to provide some U.S. \$700,000 to finance surveys concerning exploitation of the hydroelectric potential in our country, estimated to be about 15,000 megawatts—the greatest potential of the countries in the lower Mekong basin.

Delegates at International Police Conference

BK1310093793 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] A delegation of the Lao International Police Organization [LIPO] of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]—led by Police Colonel Bounpheng Vongphachan, chief of the Ministry of Interior Office and concurrently chief of the LIPO—attended the International Police Organization's [IPO] 62d Conference in Aruba, Central America from 29 September to 5 October.

The 62d IPO Meeting approved its 1994 budget and discussed rules and regulations for relations and cooperation between member countries on international crime suppression. The meeting also elected new vice presidents and members of the organization.

The LPDR first became a member of the IPO in 1957, but temporarily abstained from participation in the organization from 1975 to 1992 due to financial problems. In July 1993, the regional-level meeting of the IPO in Mongolia decided to abolish the LPDR's financial obligation to the organization for a time. Laos was therefore able to rejoin the IPO. The IPO currently comprises a total of 175 countries.

National Assembly Issues Resolution 2 Oct BK0910102193 Vientiane PASASON in Lao 5 Oct 93 pp 1, 3

[Resolution adopted at second ordinary session of the Third National Assembly; dated 2 October]

(Text) The second ordinary session of the Third National Assembly was officially convened at the National Assembly in Vientiane from 27 September to 2 October under the chairmanship of Saman Vi-gnaket, chairman of the National Assembly of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]. Before the convening of this session, each commission of the National Assembly held separate meetings from 20 to 25 September 1993 to discuss the contents of the agenda of the session by inviting many ministers concerned to explain and express their views on issues of interest to the commissions and possible questions to be asked by members of the National Assembly.

Attending the session were 83 members of the National Assembly. The other two members were absent for health reasons. The session had the honor to welcome the chairman of the party Central Committee [CC] and president of the LPDR, various members of the party CC Political Bureau, advisers to the party CC, members of the Council of Ministers, heads of the central-level mass organizations, representatives of the people of ali strata, intellectuals, businessmen from both the state and private sectors, members of the diplomatic corps, and representatives of the international organizations in Laos.

After carefully studying and discussing many issues, the session unanimously agreed:

- 1. To endorse the government's report on the implementation of the 1992-93 state socioeconomic development plan and on the draft 1993-94 state socioeconomic development plan presented by Khamphoui Keoboualapha, deputy prime minister of the LPDR and chairman of the Committee for Cooperation and Planning;
- 2. To endorse the government's report on the implementation of the 1992-93 state budget plan and on the draft 1993-94 state budget plan presented by Khamsai Souphanouvong, minister of finance;
- To endorse the report of the Supreme People's Court on the organization and execution of duties in enforcing laws through people's courts, presented by Ket Kiattisak, chairman of the Supreme People's Court;
- 4. To endorse the report of the People's Judiciary Institute on the organization and execution of duties in enforcing laws, presented by Phai Oula, chairman of the People's Judiciary Institute;
- 5. To endorse the overall report on the activities and execution of duties in 1993 and on the orientation of tasks in 1994 of the Third National Assembly, presented

by Chaleun Yiapaoheu, chairman of the Secretariat Commission and head of the office of the National Assembly.

The session noted and appraised that since the promulgation of the Constitution and many laws, a new turn has been created in the management of society through the gradual enforcement of laws. An atmosphere of trust and jubilation has been created for the multiethnic people of all strata. The Constitution and laws have ensured the rights and freedom of the people. In contrast with this development, numerous weak points and shortcomings still remain. For example, the enforcement of laws has not been effectively carried out. Acts of law violation remain generally widespread because a sense of lawabiding habit has not been adequately promoted within our society. Organizations charged with law enforcement have not yet been fully solidified and strengthened. Coordination among the various state organizations in enforcing the Constitution and laws has not been effectively synchronized. Therefore, the session unanimously agreed that stricter measures must be adopted to ensure that the implementation of the Constitution and other laws be more gradually effective.

This ordinary session was the first meeting in which the Third National Assembly was able to fully carry out its regular tasks and roles as a legislative organization in exercising its role in controlling and monitoring the executive organizations of the state, the judiciary organizations and the activities of the National Assembly in implementing the party's policy of restructuring and the state's socioeconomic development plans, laws, and regulations. The session also heard reports presented by members of the National Assembly from various electoral constituencies, who conveyed the views, propositions, and aspirations of their constituents and portrayed the reality in their respective constituencies to the meeting. In presenting their views to the session, members of the National Assembly fully held aloft a sense of political responsibility, pointed out and discussed certain weak points and shortcomings in the implementation of the party's policy of restructuring, and made many recommendations on the 1993-94 state socioeconomic development plan and budget.

6. The session hailed the multiethnic people of all classes and businessmen from both the state and private sectors for constantly heightening a sense of vigilance against the strategy of peaceful change applied by hostile forces; holding aloft a sense of being the masters of the country, the spirit of patriotism, and the love in the popular democratic regime; contributing to building the country and maintaining its stability; and consistently maintaining unity, thereby improving the people's living conditions and gradually changing the face of our nation.

The session commended and hailed all party and state organizations and mass organizations for actively and effectively implementing the Constitution and all other laws, thus creating a new atmosphere under which the state management has been gradually carried out by means of laws and the people's rights and freedom better ensured than before.

The session hailed foreign nationals living in the LPDR for fulfilling their obligations in accordance with the laws of the LPDR. It also hailed overseas Lao compatriots living abroad for their sense of patriotism and aspiring to return home to contribute to developing and building the country to make it prosperous and strong.

- 7. The session expressed profound gratitude toward and highly valued the invaluable support and assistance given by all friendly countries—near and far—and all international organizations to the socieconomic development in the LPDR. The session expressed hope that the LPDR will continue receiving consistent sympathy, support, assistance, and cooperation from these friendly countries and international organizations.
- 8. The session called on our compatriots of all classes and tribes and all Lao people living abroad and business enteprises both in the state and private sectors to increase their unity to build and defend the country together and to translate into reality the 1993-94 state socioeconomic development plan mapped out by the government to make our country prosperous and strong and our people happy and wealthy in the future.

The session also called on all cadres, state employees, soldiers, policemen, and Lao citizens to heighten a sense of strictly abiding by the Constitution and other laws so as to ensure the rights of mastership and democratic freedom for the people.

9. The session reached a unamious decision that the National Assembly will do everything to carry out its duties stipulated in the Constitution and the National Assembly Law to deserve the title of being the organization representing the rights of mastership of all multiethnic people of all classes and the state power organization from the people, by the people, and for the people, genuinely serving the people's interests. It pledged to carry out activities more actively than before so as to implement, together with the state executive organizations and judiciary organizations, the state socioeconomic development plan and budget for the 1993-94 fiscal year and other plans and budgets from now to the year 2000. It pledged to put into practice the Constitution and all other laws, to educate and encourage the people to hold aloft a sense of abiding by the Constitution, laws, regulations, and the spirit of patriotism and the love of the new regime, and to bolster the unity among the multiethnic people so as to defend and build the country together. At the same time, it pledged to nobly contribute to the international cause for peace, national independence, sovereignty, democracy, friendship, and cooperation in this region and in the world.

[Dated] Vientiane, 2 October 1993 [Signed] The second ordinary session of the Third National Assembly

More Refugees Repatriated to Champassak Province

BK1010090193 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 10 Oct 93

[Text] Champassak Province recently welcomed back 29 repatriated refugees from 10 families; 16 of them were women. Three of the refugees were originally from Champassak District, 11 from Phon Thong District, three from Sanasomboun District, one from Soukhouma District, and 11 from Pakse District. These refugees were handed over in Savannakhet Province in late September.

In the first nine months of this year, Champassak Province welcomed back seven batches of refugees totalling 258 people from 76 families; 125 of them were women. Ninety-eight of them were repatriated from China, one from France, and 159 from Thailand. In addition, the province also received nine illegal Lao immigrants who were repatriated from Thailand.

Some of the refugees have been settled at a development village in Mounlapamok District. Each family has been given a 30 by 30 meter plot of land to build a shelter, a plot of two hectares for carrying out food production, some production tools, one cow, 70 corrugated iron sheets, a set of carpentry tools, and other supplies. So far, 112 refugees have been resettled in this development village, while the rest have been sent back to their native villages.

Philippines

Agenda, Date Uncertain for Ramos Visit to U.S.

BK1110095293 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English 0230 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] President Ramos faces a quandary regarding his forthcoming trip to the United States. Will he make one trip or two? Ramos has already accepted an invitation of the U.S. President Bill Clinton to attend the summit of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation leaders in Seattle on 19 to 20 November. Informed sources said that Ramos' advisers have also been studying the option of an earlier working visit for a one-on-one talk with Clinton sometime between October 20 and 22.

The uncertainty stems chiefly from Clinton's chancy schedule. The key part of this trip is the working visit to Washington and we won't know when that will be until Washington tells us, said a presidential aide who asked not to be mentioned. Clinton is said to have been engrossed not only on his heavy domestic agenda but also in developments in international hot spots like Bosnia- Herzegovina and Somalia. But some Philippine officials fear this reflects the low priority Manila now gets in Washington since the 1991 pullout of U.S. military bases from the country. It also highlights the difficulties Ramos faces in trying to rebuild ties between the two countries. The efforts to work out a mutually acceptable schedule give rise to the idea of Ramos taking

a quick trip to Washington within this month. The visit agenda will be limited to a meeting between the two leaders. Ramos' delegation would be limited to a small number of key congressional leaders, said an informed source. One of the objectives is to establish personal rapport between the two leaders, the source added. The November trip would be more business-oriented and the presidential party would include key Filipino businessmen to explore possible trade and investment opportunities.

Based on a tentative schedule, the trip next month will take Ramos on a 12-day tour through eight U.S. cities. Ramos was said to have reacted unfavorably to the idea of taking two U.S. trips for personal and political reasons. One aide said Ramos could be criticized for incurring extra expenses or bending over too much to accommodate Washington. Also an October 20 or 22 trip would be too close to the wedding of Ramos' daughter Jo which is set for October 24. But the idea does not seem to have been ruled out altogether.

Manila's ambivalence reflects its eagerness to repair the failed ties with its former colonial master and major benefactor. Bilateral relations nose-dived after acrimonious negotiations over a new military bases treaty that ended disastrously when the Philippine Senate rejected the draft accord. Despite efforts of then President Aquino to avert a quick pullout, Washington withdrew its forces ahead of schedule and deployed some of these to nearby Southeast Asian countries like Singapore. Since then, the U.S. Congress has toned down its allocations for the Philippines and economic officials here say Manila must prepare for further cuts in U.S. assistance. Ramos has said he will stress trade, not aid when he meets U.S. officials.

Nearly half a century after attaining independence from the United States, the Philippines remains heavily dependent on U.S. buyers of its key exports like garments and semiconductors. The United States still accounts for one-third of the Philippines' total trade. In recent years, the Philippines has been running up trade surpluses with the United States for about one billion dollars a year. Manila is now trying to convince Washington to increase its quota in the U.S. garments market which is now pegged at about 500 million dollars annually.

Ramos Reaffirms Commitment to AFTA

BK1110091393 Quezon City PTV-4 Television Network in Tagalog 0642 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Weekly news conference by President Fidel V. Ramos with domestic and foreign correspondents at Malacanang Palace in Manila; in English—live]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Correspondent, identified only as Manny] There are proposals to reduce tariff duties on a variety of products in the ASEAN region and to expand intra-regional trade. There are also proposals to pursue a more protective trade policy. But Singapore,

being a trading economy, wants a fair play and is opposed to any kind of quotas, tariffs, or what have we. Mr. President, what policy shall ASEAN adopt in the light of this seemingly conflicting views?

[Ramos] Well, I think there is one common view to which we are all dedicated, and that is, the program to institute AFTA [ASEAN Free Trade Agreement] itself, but that covers a 15-year period. The member countries of ASEAN, in spite of their common desire to be as integrated as possible in the economic field, have different characteristics.

In the case of the Philippines, we do have a very large agricultural sector. But what is important to remember is that while we may have those different conditions, that we are all moving toward the fulfillment of the putting in place of AFTA. But there is a phasing-out and a phasing-in period, and it has been agreed that each country will do its best to comply with the schedule and we are complying. The same with Indonesia and Thailand, which have very large agricultural sectors, which cannot be hurried up due to the fact that they have to institute and ensure measures for greater productivity and efficiency.

[Manny] Follow-up, Mr. President. Do we have the number of products or the names of the products to be traded in AFTA?

[Ramos] Well, there is a list, and I think this changes very frequently. There is a list of as many as 10,000 items, both agricultural and manufactured goods that are the subject of trade, and this will result in increased trade. As far as the Philippines is concerned, we have already delisted, as we say, from the protection of tariffs just about everything except for some 2,400 items. So we have done quite a bit towards fulfilling our commitments. [passage omitted]

Ramos Certifies Eight New Bills as Urgent

BK1310051493 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English 0230 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Malacanang yesterday certified eight more bills to Congress, two of which are for immediate enactment and the rest as priority bills. The eight brought to 50 the total number of administration measures now pending before the House of Representatives and the Senate. Endorsed for immediate enactment were the Clean Air Pact and the High Value Crops Act.

The Clean Air [Pact] calls for a comprehensive air pollution control policy, according to President Ramos. The bill is sponsored by Representative Socorro O. Acosta of Bukidnon in the House and Senator Orlando Mercado in the upper chamber. Mr. Ramos said the High Value Crops Act on the other hand seeks to promote the production, processing, marketing, and distribution of high value crops such as asparagus and root crops like ube [violet yam]. The bill is sponsored in

the Senate by Senator Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and in the House by Speaker Jose De Venecia.

The six other measures certified by the president as priority administration bills are the Alien Legalization Act, Public Transport Service. Act, an act increasing the school calendar from 185 days to 300 days, an act calling for the establishment of a licensure examination for teachers, an act strengthening manpower training in the Philippines by adopting the (?dual) training system in duly accredited educational establishments, and the bill establishing centers for excellence for teachers.

Congress adjourns Friday without passing even one of the measures certified as urgent by the palace. Meanwhile, high impact national bills considered major priorities in the recent People's Economic Summit have already been passed by the House of Representatives. house officials said. These bills are now pending with the Senate. De Venecia informed President Ramos and several hundred summit participants that the House approved even before the summit six of these bills. The six measures pending in the Senate for a number of months now are the five-year 173 billion peso consolidated public works bills; the medium-term economic plan; the documentary stamp tax bill, which will yield some six billion pesos to the national treasury; the tax enhancing antismuggling bill; the science and technology scholarship program; and the bill liberalizing the entry of foreign banks into the country.

De Venecia said, besides dramatically boosting agricultural productivity, the High Value Crops Act would set in motion the country's march towards rapid agricultural diversification. He said farm income per hectare is expected to increase from the present 3,000 to 30,000 to one million pesos or more by just changing the country's land use system. Speaker Pro-Tempore Raul Daza also clarified that House Bill 11024 requiring governmentowned and controlled corporations [GOC's] to declare at least 25 percent of their annual net profit as cash dividends for the national government is not a revenue bill and could be acted upon independently by the Senate. The GOC's bill is not a revenue measure which cannot be acted on by the Senate until after the House approves it. Daza said in answer to the senators' justification of their failure to approve the bill on certain final reading before Congress adjourned last week. Daza said the bill is simply an amendment to the GOC's law. It is essentially a realignment bill and not a tax for revenue measures, he said, adding in fact the Senate approved it on second reading ahead of the House because of the Senate's assumption that the bill is not a revenue measure.

Senate Ratifies Five 'Priority Bills'

BK1410090393 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 12 Oct 93 pp 1, 18

[Text] The Senate has passed five of the 12 priority bilis it had agreed to tackle for the rest of the year and opened plenary or committee deliberations on the remaining seven of these measures. All the bills were identified during the 8 September Economic Summit as among the initiatives which Congress must pass to help kick-start the flagging economy.

In a caucus three weeks ago, the senators agreed to prioritize the passage of these 12 measures for the last quarter of 1993.

Senate President Edgardo J. Angara said yesterday that the week-long marathon sessions prior to the 9 October-7 November Congressional recess enabled the chamoer to pass a bicameral conference committee report on a child-friendly bill.

The upper house also adopted another social bill on third and final reading plus three other measures on second reading.

Angara said the chamber gave its final nod to a consolidated congressional version of Senate Bill [SB] No. 1155 protecting Filipinos 15 years of age and below against child abuse.

The enrolled bill was subsequently submitted to Malacanang for its enactment into law by President Ramos.

Approved on third and final reading was SB 1182 allotting P1 billion [Philippine pesos] in fresh public funds for the rehabilitation of Central Luzon provinces devastated by the 1991 eruptions of Mt. Pinatubo and its continuous lahar flows.

The Senate president said a bicameral conference committee will meet next month to turn a consolidated bill out of SB 1182 and the House version, which allocated a heftier P2 billion for this endorsed Pinatubo Appropriations Act.

The upper chamber likewise passed on second reading SB 1168 increasing the contributions of government-owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs) to the national coffers, one of the revenue enhancement measures Malacanang has endorsed for immediate congressional approval.

Also passed on second reading were twin measures designed to speed up the administration of justice. These are SB 1348 expanding the jurisdiction of inferior courts over minor criminal and civil cases, and SB 100 reforming legal education.

According to the Senate chief, the chamber will resume next month plenary deliberations on SB 1229 which seeks to restructure the National Power Corporation and on SB 767 which strengthens the visitorial powers of the secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE).

It will also resume deliberations on Senate Resolution 462 backing the Ramos administration's Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan.

Moreover, the appropriate Senate committees are pondering SB 1423 providing for mandatory contributions to the Pag-ibig housing program, House Bill [HB] No. 7789 increasing the documentary stamp tax, HB 8391 on the multi-year Public Works Act, and HB 10900 recommending a P362 billion national budget for 1994.

The Senate was ready to pass SB 1168, which mandates government-owned and controlled corporations to remit 25 percent of their net earnings to the national treasury on third reading last Friday but did not do so because of the failure of the house to pass its own version of the measure.

Under the 1987 Constitution, all appropriation measures shall emanate solely from the house.

The constitutional proviso likewise prevented the Senate from working double-time on the 1994 appropriations bill, which was approved by the house on second reading only last Friday.

Ramos Seeks Special Congressional Session

BK1310113793 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 0930 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Malacanang has shortened the vacation of the congressmen and senators. A while ago, President Fidel Ramos expressed his desire to call a four-day special congressional session starting 3 November.

The president wants the lawmakers to ratify seven urgent bills. These bills are: GOCC's [Government-Owned and Controlled Corporations] dividends bill; an increase in the excise tax on (?beer); VAT [value-added tax] refinement; an increase in the documentary stamps tax; the stock transaction tax; ratification of a multilateral investment guarantee agency; and liberalization in entry of foreign banks.

According to Press Secretary Jesus Sison, the president feels that Congress is moving too slowly:

[Begin Sison recording in progress, in English] ...needed to move the economy forward, he said the time is of the essence, and if the Philippine economy is to grow, it must grow at a faster and higher pace so that we can become competitive in the world market. There are some 80 bills certified to by the president already as priority bills, and he expects many of these 82 [as heard] priority bills to be approved by Congress within the next few days. [end recording]

Ramos on Plans for Luzon 'Quadrangle of Growth'

BK1210065393 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English 0230 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Speech by President Fidel Ramos on the 54th Foundation Day of Quezon City, Metro Manila—recorded; italicized passages in Tagalog]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] We are now building triangles of opportunity in many parts of the country, some of

them involving the cooperation and the commitment of our neighboring countries such as what is now happening in Mindanao centered in Davao City. Similarly in Luzon, and this is of interest to all of the residents and leaders of Metro Manila, we are creating a quadrangle of growth involving Ilocandia [Ilocos provinces] and Pangasinan and Baguio because this is the area closest to Hong Kong, mainland China, Taiwan, Japan, and Korea. And there we will put the attributes of international facilities and destinations. We are, of course, concentrating on the development of Subic and later on Clark and Angeles City, and to the south of Metro Manila we are well into the development of the Calabarzon [Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, and Quezon] with Batangas City as its principal seaport. All of these corridors of growth have an important benefit for Quezon City because we will connect Metro Manila, Quezon City with all of these growth centers. [applause] Through additional expressways and a more modern LRT [light rail transit] and railroad system radiating both to the south and to the north.

Today's papers, my brothers and sisters, carry the announcement of the Philippine National Construction Corporation, PNCC, of its joint venture with one of Indonesia's largest construction and engineering companies, Citra. During my visit to Indonesia last 20 to 24 September, a partnership was forged between these two companies, Filipino and Indonesian, for the engineering studies of the so-called Metro Manila tollway, and that will lead eventually to the enhancement, rehabilitation, widening, and overall improvement of that Metro Manila tollway, starting from the Alabang tollgate going north to the heart of Metro Manila, with its greatest expanse here in Quezon City because it will connect [changes thought] it will be integrated with C-5 [a beltway] and all out eventually to the north expressway (Rutabang) in Bulacan, a total of 46.2 kilometers, which is due to come into our system, let us say, in about three years. [applause] [passage omitted]

Communists Reiterate Rejection of Constitution

BK1110082893 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English 0230 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] The National Democratic Front [NDF] said yesterday that the second round of exploratory peace talks with the government will not be held unless Executive Order [EO] No. 125 setting the negotiations within the framework of the Constitution is withdrawn. [Words indistinct] arising just when the long-drawn issue of venue has been resolved came in the wake of expectations that exploratory talks which began in the Netherlands last year will be continued this month or next month in Vietnam.

In a press statement issued yesterday by NDF Vice Chairman Luis Jalandoni, the leftist underground organization said it firmly maintains its stand that Executive Order No. 125 contradicts the provisions of the joint

declaration signed in The Hague, Netherlands, unilaterally imposes the preconditions of the Philippine Government Constitution as the framework of peace negotiations, and, therefore, fundamentally obstructs the holding of further exploratory talks. But Oscar Santos, presidential adviser on the peace process, said it was unlikely the order issued by President Ramos last September 15 would be withdrawn. We have to go by the constitutional process, he said in a telephone interview, expressing hope that the NDF would be more flexible. Santos said, both sides should pay more attention to the substantive aspects of the negotiation like electoral reforms and whether the government was willing to allow this. He described the concern over constitutional processes as a play of words that should give way to discussions over real issues. Oscar, a former congressman said, it was perhaps just the perception of the NDF that a precondition was being imposed by the government when the latter invoked the Constitution as a guide for the talks. When asked if there was no contradiction between the provisions contained in EO 125 and the Hague declaration, Santos said he didn't see any. Santos also said despite the issuance of EO 125, the government continues to support the Hague declaration. Jalandoni said that the Hague declaration signed on 1 September last year by government and NDF representatives was crystal-clear that the framework of peace negotiations must be in accordance with mutually acceptable principles, including national sovereignty, democracy, and social justice. The declaration, he said, precludes the imposition of the Constitution of one party on the other. By determining that the Constitution would serve as the framework for the talks, Jalandoni said the government was imposing a precondition that negates the inherent character and purpose of the peace negotiations. It is tantamount to demanding surrender and takes away every possibility for genuine negotiations, he said.

Senator Wigberto Tanada of the LP [Liberal Party], former member of the National Unification Commission, first raised the possibility that the executive order will become a stumbling block to the peace process. He said the EO's provision and constitutional process could be questioned by the NDF which has always placed itself beyond jurisdiction of the Constitution.

Bamos Urges Mindanaoans' Support for Progress BK11100:4193 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English 0230 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Text] President Fidel Ramos called yesterday on the people of Mindanao to support his administration's peace initiatives as he stressed the importance of a stable political and peace and order condition in the country's development. Speaking at a multisectoral assembly at the Gregorio Murillo's Sports Center in Tandag, Surigao del Sur, the chief executive also urged politicians in Mindanao to set aside partisan politics and support the government's campaign against loose firearms and private armed groups.

Mr. Ramos released 15 million pesos for the 1994 construction program of the 300-kilometer Surigao del Sur, Davao Oriental coastal road. He promised that the project, which would ease these provinces' isolation from the rest of Mindanao, will be hastened once Congress approves the 175-billion-peso Public Works Act. The president also reiterated his call on Mindanaoans to protect and conserve their environment, stressing the exploitation of its resources need not destroy the environment. Your own economic development and prosperity has been set back by years of civil strife, he said. But this has been stemmed, Mr. Ramos said, by a renewed drive by both the national and provincial government to bring back insurgents, whether they are communists or secessionists to the fold of the law. This province was known before as a haven for communists' New People's Army. President Ramos, when he was still a defense secretary, was once booed by suspected communist guerrillas as he spoke before a public function here. The chief executive said it is now time to put aside divisiveness and factionalism among Filipinos as the country enters a new phase in its history. Peace will eventually come not in the distant future but sooner than you think, he said. The government has instituted formal peace negotiations with the right-wing Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabayan or RAM [Revolutionary Nationalist Alliance] and the secessionist Moro National Liberation Front, MNLF. It is also trying to convince the communist National Democratic Front to enter into the second round of exploratory talks with the government.

At the same time President Fidel Ramos called on Mindanaoans to ensure that the land's natural resources are exploited wisely. Let us put these resources to work by not abusing them but by making sure of their wise use through sustainable development, he said. The chief executive noted that logging per se is not bad as long as people will replant trees. He said the same concern for the environment should be displayed by those engaged in mining and fishing. He said Minadanaoans should also look for trade and other business opportunities from neighboring Asian countries like Indonesia.

Mr. Ramos was accompanied by First Lady Amelita Ramos and several members of the cabinet led by Agriculture Secretary Roberto Sebastian and Public Works and Highways Secretary Gregorio Vigilar.

Syndicate Smuggling 'Human Cargoes' Exposed BK1410093893 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 12 Oct 93 p 7

[Report by Bert Castro]

[Text] The Presidential Anti-Crime Commission [PACC] yesterday exposed the operation of a syndicate smuggling "human cargoes" at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport [NAIA].

The PACC intelligence group identified at least five members of the smuggling syndicate who were mostly officers and agents of the Bureau of Immigration and Deportation, Philippine National Police, Narcotics Command, a representative of various airlines, and NAIA security.

The PACC intelligence tagged the leaders as "Kalaw," "Bontia" "Felix," "Agustin," and "Ka Romy."

The syndicate specialized in the smuggling of overseas contract workers and the entry into the country of illegal aliens, mostly Chinese and Indians. The PACC conducted the surveillance and investigation on the NAIA racket upon the proddings of some quarters, notably the U.S. Embassy.

Embassy officials complained about the proliferation of Filipino entrants in the United States through fake travel papers fixed by the syndicate.

The PACC declined for security reasons to identify the head and members of its intelligence group which for six months investigated the well-entrenched ring operating for a long time within the NAIA unmolested by airport authorities and other law enforcement agencies.

PACC Chairman and Vice President Joseph Estrada was forming a special task force to arrest all the members of the syndicate.

The report of the head of the PACC intelligence group indicated that the NAIA ring charged each departing Filipino contract worker with 5,000 pesos and every illegal alien at least 200,000 pesos. The report also indicated that the smuggling ring netted a daily minimum 500,000 pesos.

The syndicate was responsible for the production of fake travel documents, including reentry permits, passports, and other papers usually required by the NAIA. The fake papers were printed either in Manila or Hong Kong. PACC was checking on the Hong Kong connection of the syndicate.

Thailand

Defense Minister Denies Supplying Khmer Rouge

BK1310145393 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Commenting on the reported accusation made by a high-level military officer that the Khmer Rouge has received assistance from the Thai military—including three tanks driven by uniformed Thai soldiers and 40 antiaircraft artillery pieces—the defense minister has said it was a misunderstanding. He added:

[Begin Defense Minister Wichit Sukmak recording] The Thai Government—in particular the foreign minister—has repeatedly stressed that we will not interfere in Cambodia's internal affairs, nor will we get involved in the fighting in Cambodia. We will not support any Cambodian faction engaged in the fighting. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Army Commander General Wimon Wongwanit said that the Thai military has never done such a thing and that there was no point to it. So far, assistance has been provided to the Cambodian Government for the sake of peace and economic development.

[Begin Wimon recording] Sending antiaircraft artillery pieces to help the Khmer Rouge? Where could Thailand get these new weapons to help other people? That is untrue. I believe there must be some misunderstanding. Why should the Thai military support the Khmer Rouge? We would not gain anything. We want Cambodia to have peace, because it would benefit the development of our economy and tourist industry. There is no need to create such a situation in Cambodia. I can always reaffirm that we will not do that. [end recording]

At the same time, Lieutenant General Anuson Kritsanaserani said:

[Begin Anuson recording] They should have taken photos or arrested the Thai soldiers driving the tanks to prove this to the world. Such an unreliable statement damages the Thai armed forces. At this moment, we are thinking of asking the Foreign Ministry to take appropriate actions in response to these accusations by some Cambodian military officers, because they have painted a bad picture of Thailand in the eyes of the world. We want our Foreign Ministry to contact the Cambodian Foreign Ministry and ask the Cambodian Government to supervise and look after any news release made by officials of lower echelons. [end recording]

Army Spokesman Colonel Phalangkun Klahan said the Army has always strictly complied with the government's policy and UN resolutions, and wants to see peace in Cambodia.

Prasong Receives British Minister of State

BK1310150593 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri spoke to reporters at noon today about his meeting with [Alastair] Goodlad, British minister of state for foreign affairs, at the Foreign Ministry. He said the British minister took the opportunity to visit Thailand on his way home from an official visit to Hong Kong.

The British minister invited the Thai foreign minister to visit England. Squadron Leader Prasong accepted the invitation in principle. Minister Prasong said that at today's discussion, they exchanged views on the regional situation, particularly on Burma and Cambodia.

The British minister of state noted an improving situation in Cambodia. Prasong said he explained Thailand's policy toward Cambodia to the British minister, and reported on his meeting in New York with Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen, the first and second prime ministers of Cambodia. Prasong said they also discussed the role of ASEAN. The Thai foreign minister, in his capacity as chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee, noted that ASEAN now has a new subject of concern; that is, the discussion among ASEAN members as well as with their dialogue partners—the United States; Canada; Australia; New Zealand; Japan; the Republic of Korea; and the European Community, or EC—on regional cooperation and security. He said this is new. The foreign minister stressed that, by security, ASEAN does not mean military cooperation. ASEAN stresses the peaceful settlement of regional conflicts. Instead of the use of force to settle problems, ASEAN wants to promote cooperation and development in order to forge economic stability in the region.

On Burma, the foreign minister said he explained Thailand's and ASEAN's policy toward Burma to the visitor. He said that the policy of constructive engagement is good, and will influence Burma to make positive changes. He noted that things are getting better in Burma. Burma's leaders have already admitted that Burma cannot remain isolated, but must coexist with the world community. Yet there remain problems to be solved in Burma, and this will take time.

Bank of Thailand Opens Office in London

BK1210005993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Oct 93 p 17

[Text] The Bank of Thailand opened a London representative office on Friday to monitor Thai banks' European operations and to increase emphasis on active management of Thailand's US\$25 billion in reserves, Governor Wichit Suphinit said. He was quoted by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) shortly after attending the opening of the bank's second foreign representative office. The first is in New York.

Typically, according to the International Monetary Fund's 1991 report, the world's foreign reserves are held in three major currencies: US dollars (55.76 percent), Deutschemarks (18.48 percent) and yen (10.57 percent). The total reserves of IMF member countries and Taiwan exceeded \$816 billion in 1992.

The BBC quoted Mr Wichit as saying that Tokyo is the next place where the central bank will open an office. He said the reserves are being managed for the highest return possible but also for high liquidity purposes as these reserves are required to be readily available.

According to bankers quoted in Euromoney, the most advanced central bank operations set aside a portion of their reserves to be used for intervention and another portion for strategic funds. The latter funds are managed mainly for performance purposes, measured against return expectations and conditions set by central banks.

"Without this split between intervention and strategic funds, performance measurement becomes meaningless as it is dictated as much by unpredictable liquidation as by the skill of the manager," one banker said.

Whether Thailand's central bank splits its reserve management is unclear. However, JP Morgan, Warburg Asset Management, Deutsche Bank and Union Bank of Switzerland are contracted by the central bank to manage part of Thailand's reserves.

Whether these firms are active on the central bank's behalf in the currency markets or in the bond markets is also unknown, though the overriding concern of most central banks is credit quality.

"Before they think of enhancing yields, central banks make sure they do not lose money," said one banker, though rapid interest rate and currency movements in the past few months have taken most banking institutions by surprise.

The BBC quoted Mr Wichit as saying that the New York office has been instrumental in helping the central bank manage the dollars in Thailand's reserves and the London office will help the bank manage the major European currencies in its reserves.

The Deutschmark will be the first target of the central bank, Mr Wichit was quoted as saying as he bought the first batch of Deutschmarks on behalf of the central bank's London office.

According to Euromoney, unpredictable liquidation for currency support can be a prime directive of most central banks. "Always uppermost in their minds, central banks must be sure that they can move at least part of their portfolio into cash for intervention purposes," said one banker.

This cash can be used to intervene directly in foreign exchange markets or used to change the composition of the currency mix in a central bank's basket of foreign currencies.

Thailand's currency mix depends mainly on the debt portfolio Thailand has and on the composition of imports. However, since Thailand has large foreign exchange reserves in relation to liabilities and imports, flexibility in managing foreign reserves is thought to be important.

PLO Relations Said To Benefit Officials

BK1310020793 Bangkok THE NATION in English 13 Oct 93 p A2

[Text] The personal feud between Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri and Chat Phatthana Party leader Chatchai Chunhawan reached new heights yesterday when a Chatchai aide harshly criticized Prasong for his "suspicious" links with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

Lamphun MP Saman Chomphuthep he would ask Phalang Tham Party founder Chamlong Simuang to investigate party member Prasong "in connection with possible benefits" Thai officials gained from the PLO.

Saman's attack on Prasong came after the minister lashed out at Chatchai, who had denounced the government's decision to make Thailand a member of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM). Chatchai warned that Thailand's participation in the NAM, which consists mainly of Third World countries would make Thailand "lose friends," including the United States. Hitting back, Prasong said opposition MPs criticizing the decision to join the NAM were ignorant of world events and had "failed to do their homework."

The government side said the opposition voiced objections to the NAM decision "just for their name's sake", and noted that opposition leaders had never been particularly sensitive about Washington's feelings.

Saman refused to clarify his charges and admitted that he had to find more evidence about Prasong's relations with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat.

"After I have all evidence about how, where and when Prasong met 'Arafat, I will go to Chamlong," said Saman.

Prasong had a brief discussion with 'Arafat when the PLO chief stopped over at Don Muang airport en route to Egypt early last month.

Saman claimed that some seven or eight years ago the PLO once tried to bribe Thai officials.

"Prasong is a former intelligence chief. He should realize that. Yet he's putting the country at risk (by forging greater connections with PLO through the NAM)," Saman said.

When he was prime minister, Chatchai approved in principle a proposal to have a PLO representative office in Bangkok. The plan was put on hold because of Palestinian support for Iraq in the Gulf War.

Prasong and Chatchai have been irreconcilable antagonists. Earlier this year, both visited Vietnam and were engaged in a war of words when Chatchai allegedly tried to steal Prasong's show concerning Thai development initiatives for the neighbouring country.

The Muanchon Party formally decided yesterday to dissolve itself and join the Social Action Party, but the merger scheme is apparently falling far short of expectations as three other camps involved in the initial deal have backed off.

The Chat Phatthana Party, which commands 60 MPs, has decided against joining the merger, embarrassing its leader Chatchai Chunhawan who signed the deal last month. Muanchon's strength would boost the number of

Social Action MPs to 25 from the current 21. The initial plan foresaw a formidable Social Action controlling nearly 100 MPs.

Muanchon leader Chaloem Yubamrung is expected to be given the post of secretary-general in the Social Action Party.

Chaloem said the merger of the two parties would take full legal effect on Nov 22 when he and Social Action leader Montri Phongphanit formally inform the political party registrar of the merger.

Prasong Challenges Credibility of PLO Accuser

BK1410054993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
14 Oct 93 p 2

[Text] FOREIGN Minister Prasong Sunsiri yesterday dismissed an opposition member's allegation that he received financial contributions from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on behalf of the Palang Dhar Party.

Sqn Ldr Prasong, a former chief of the National Security Council said he would not pay any attention to the groundless allegations made by an "unranked soldier."

When asked to comment on the accusation made by Chart Pattana Party MP Samarn Chomputhep, Sqn Ldr Prasong shot back: "Is the accuser the same person who was expelled from Solidarity Party?"

Mr Samarn resigned from the Solidarity Party under heavy pressure from party members and the mass media for allegedly abusing his authority while a member of the House Transport and Communications Committee.

In 1990 he secured a land rental deal with the State Railway of Thailand for a Japanese firm at an unrealistically low rate. Faced with possible expulsion from the party, he repeatedly promised to resign but did not do so until a senior newspaper reporter handed him a resignation letter for him to sign during a press conference.

Foreign Minister Prasong said he regarded Mr Samarn only as an "unranked soldier" and he would not pay any attention to the comments from this unimportant person.

Sqn Ldr Prasong insisted he had performed a good deed for the country by bringing Thailand in as a member of the Nonaligned Movement (NAM), of which the PLO is also a member.

The close relations Thailand has with the PLO will be beneficial for the kingdom, he said. "Having more friends is always better than having more enemies," the minister said.

He pointed out that the PLO has been recognised by the United Nations and maintains offices in almost all ASEAN nations.

Sqn Ldr Prasong, a former chief of the National Security Council, said he did not anticipate any problem with allowing the PLO to set up an office in Bangkok.

He said he had thoroughly studied the pros and cons in bringing Thailand into the NAM before making that decision, he said.

Meanwhile yesterday, former Palang Dharma Party leader Chamlong Srimuang denied that the PDP has ever received financial contributions from the PLO.

The PDP has no policy about making money through foreign connections and it has never hosted parties to raise funds for the party although doing so would not be against the law, he said.

Maj-Gen Chamlong said the PDP's financial assistance came from the donations made by party supporters.

He said the move to foster better relations between Thailand and the PLO by allowing the latter to set up an office here was a government policy and not a personal wish of any individual PDP member or that of the party.

Maj-Gen Chamlong said he did not see a need for the party to explain Mr Samarn's allegation but he would investigate the source of Mr Samarn's misleading information.

PDP spokesman Sutham Saengprathum said he believed that the people could judge for themselves if the accused or the accuser had more credibility in the public eye.

Mr Sutham said it has been widely known that Sqn Ldr Prasong had a good relationship with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, but to accuse him of receiving money from the PLO on behalf of the PDP was groundless and therefore the public would not believe it.

Social Action Party Absorbs Muanchon Members BK1410061393 Bangkok THE NATION in English

14 Oct 93 p A4

[Text] THE Muanchon Party yesterday dissolved into the Social Action Party with its leader Chaloem Yubamrung appointed as the SAP secretary-general, SAP leader Montri Phongpanit said. Former SAP secretary-general Bunphan Kaewattyana is now first deputy leader of the SAP, Montri added yesterday. Three other Muanchon Party MPs were appointed executive members of the SAP. The Muanchon has four parliamentary seats.

The merging of Muanchon Party with the SAP was part of a scheme initiated by former SAP leader MR Khukrit Pramot. The SAP was recently sacked from the coalition government of Prime Minister Chuan Likphai. Chaloem said he agreed to a lesser role (from a party leader to secretary general) and was ready comply with any SAP decision.

Asked about the possibility of other parties in the opposition bloc following the example of the Muanchon, Montri said he is not sure as the Ratsadon Party has yet to respond to an invitation to do so. The SAP leader said the Chat Phatthana will take long time to decide on a merger as the party has 60 MPs.

"If you want to know whether Chat Phatthana and Prachakon Thai will merge with the SAP, you have to ask Gen Chatchai and Samak Suntharawet of Prachakon Thai. The SAP is the one to wait for their decision," he added.

He said he cannot say whether the two parties will integrate into the SAP, as only a memorandum was endorsed and not an agreement.

Meanwhile Ratsadon Party leader Chaiphak Siriwat said an executive committee meeting of his party will be held next Tuesday, after which he will be able state the party's position on the matter. Chaiphak said at first he asked permission from the party's executive members for five opposition parties to merge, but now everything had changed.

Officials Claim Situation in South 'Improved'

BK1310014793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 13 Oct 93 p 1

[Text] The situation in the South has improved despite an attempt on Monday by an unknown group of people to sabotage the railway track in Pattani's Khok Pho District, Defence Minister Wichit Sukmak said yesterday. Gen Wichit said the people who planted the home-made bomb under the railway track must have undergone military training because it was the work of professional soldiers.

The minister stopped short of saying that those responsible were members of a separatist group, but he did say that they must belong to a movement capable of conducting terrorist activities otherwise they would not be receiving financial support.

Commenting on the report that Thailand has sought cooperation from Malaysia to pressure separatist bandits operating along the border, Gen Wichit said there will be a high-level meeting between the supreme commanders of Thailand and Malaysia in Bangkok today during which Thailand will seek to amend the existing border treaty.

According to an earlier report, Thai Supreme Commander ACM Woranat Aphichari will urge his Malaysian counterpart to accept a Thai proposal to treat "all forms of terrorism," including the separatist movement, along the border as a "common enemy" of the two countries.

Meanwhile, Deputy Interior Minister Den Tomina said the local authorities in Pattani should not be criticised for the bomb found under the railway track because it is difficult to watch the entire length of the railway line.

Commenting on why the weapons and communications equipment recovered after clashes with separatists were

mostly of the same kind as those used by government forces, Mr Den said they might have been smuggled into Thailand from Cambodia.

On the question of whether the separatists had obtained support from some people inside the country, he said the authorities must be more watchful concerning this matter. However, the Deputy Interior Minister said the situation in the South has Improved considerably as a result of the stronger performance by the local authorities.

Based on this level of performance he said he believes that the problem of separatist bandits would soon be overcome once and for all. He affirmed that Thailand and Malaysia have coordinated with each other at many levels.

In other developments, Police Chief Gen Sawat Amonwiwat said Assistant Police Chief Pol Lt-Gen Chumphon Atthasat will today leave for the South to renew effective measures to prevent sabotage. Commenting on the home-made bomb found under the railway track in Pattani, Pol Gen Sawat said it was not yet known when the bomb was planted or whether any train had run over it before being discovered. The bomb was planted near the village where two of the four suspects in the school arson case were arrested. However, the police chief did not say if this was an act of revenge.

Meanwhile, Assistant Police Chief Lt-Gen Pracha Phromnok travelled to Khok Pho District police station to question Mrs Bido Awae who found the bomb and Ban Na Khor Tai assistant village chief Da-o Dari.

Warin Thongchai, a teacher of Ban Na Khor Tai which is located near the railway track, said his students and several villagers stopped two trains from running over the bomb after it was discovered.

Government To Expand Land Reform Program

BK1410060593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Oct 93 p 6

[Text] THE Government has distributed about 4 million rai of land to farmers under its land reform scheme and aims to expand the programme to 6 million rai in fiscal year 1995.

Deputy Agriculture Minister Suthep Thuaksuban reported this to Prime Minister Chuan Likphai, who presented land use certificates to about 200 farmers from all over the country in a ceremony held at Government House yesterday.

Mr Chuan said the Government attaches much importance to the land reform scheme for realising that it is necessary to provide land for farmers to make their living.

"About 10 million people have encroached on forests and we cannot allow this to continue," he told the farmers. The Prime Minister said over 30 million rai will

be distributed under the scheme. He urged the farmers to help protect the remaining forests.

Mr Suthep said the farmers under the land reform scheme will act as a buffer to prevent further forest encroachment.

The Land Reform Office will be responsible for developing water resources and infrastructure and providing occupational training for people under the scheme.

Asked to comment on Prime Minister's Office Minister Sawit Phothiwihok's idea to create tourist spots inside national parks, Mr Suthep said that in principle a national park is a suitable place for people to visit and relax, because of its natural beauty.

What remains in doubt is how much land is needed and how the land would be managed, Mr Suthep said.

"If, for example, a 1,000-rai tract of land is needed to build a golf course, I would not let this happen. "But, if the land is for a resort, a car park or a restaurant to receive tourists, we have to think how the use of land for this purpose would be controlled," he said.

The Forestry Department has opposed Mr Sawit's idea. Both Mr Suthep and Mr Sawit are members of the Democrat Party.

Japan Signs Contract To Buy 133,000 Tons of Rice

BK1410095393 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Summary] Thai Minister of Commerce Uthai Phimchaichon and Mr. (Kuroshi), secretary of the Japanese Embassy in Thailand, signed a contract for Japan to buy 133,000 metric tons of Thai rice. The Thai minister said that the quantity of rice ordered is small because at present Japanese people still like short-grain rice. However, he believes that they will like Thai rice more in the future because of its high quality.

Government Posts Budget Surplus in FY 1993

BK1310094393 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 13 Oct 93 p 4

[Text] Phisit Li-atham, director of the Bank of Thailand Governor's Office, has disclosed that the government's total revenue for fiscal year [FY] 1993—ending 30 September—was 559 billion baht, 25 billion baht over the set target. The government's earnings from import taxes and juristic person income taxes were 11 and 6 billion baht higher than the set targets, respectively. Revenue from VAT [value-added tax] collection, however, was less than the target of 6.5 billion baht.

Total expenditures for the 1993 fiscal year were registered at 406.6 billion baht, representing 77.5 percent of the set budget. Hence, the government had a budget surplus of 69.1 billion baht, or 2.3 percent of the gross national product. The government's total debt was 620.5

billion baht, 358.4 billion baht of which was external debt. The ratio between debt payment and national budget in the 1993 fiscal year was 11.2 percent, compared with 12.7 percent in the previous year.

Amnuai Patise, secretary to the finance minister, revealed that the Finance Ministry has a policy of using the large amount of money from the budget surplus to pay foreign debts rather than increasing internal expenditures. By so doing, the country's credit rating is expected to improve. At the same time, such a policy will not cause inflation or a current account imbalance.

Vietnam

Vice President Receives IMF Delegation Head

BK1310095593 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] On 11 October, at the Presidential Palace in Hanoi, SRV Vice President Nguyen Thi Binh received and cordially held talks with Mr. Michel Camdessus, general managing director of the International Monetary Fund.

Vice President Nguyen Thi Binh warmly welcomed the IMF director and his entourage. She said that the visit has opened a new stage in cooperative relations between Vietnam and the IMF. On behalf of the Vietnamese state and people, Vice President Nguyen Thi Binh thanked the IMF for its assistance to Vietnam, especially in the financial and training domains, as well as in sharing its experiences with Vietnam.

She asserted that with Vietnam's strong determination to implement the renovation process and fulfill the objectives of making the people prosperous, the country powerful, and society advanced—though difficulties are still prevalent—the country will certainly be able to succeed, especially with assistance from friendly nations and international organizations such as the IMF.

The vice president expressed the hope that through this visit, the IMF director and his entourage will make a thorough study to strengthen bilateral cooperation between Vietnam and the IMF.

Mr. Michel Camdessus thanked Vice President Nguyen Thi Binh for her warm reception and fine assessment of IMF-Vietnamese relations. He asserted that with Vietnam's favorable conditions and the current world trend, IMF-Vietnamese relations will be satisfactorily and fruitfully developed. He wished the Vietnamese people new achievements in building a prosperous and strong Vietnam, thereby positively contributing to peace, stability, and prosperity in the region and the world.

Improving Relations With ASEAN States Hailed BK1210161193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in

BK1210161193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 11 Oct 93

[Article by Van Lien appearing in the 10 October issue of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN: "Vietnam-ASEAN Relations Overcome the Barrier of Distrust"]

[Text] During the Cold War years, relations between the Indochinese and ASEAN countries experienced suspicion and distrust. At the end of the Cold War, countries in the region quickly adjusted their internal and foreign policies to suit the new situation in the region and the world.

One of the most important factors affecting the future of Southeast Asia is the relationship between ASEAN and Vietnam. In its history of development, ASEAN has faced serious challenges in the security, political, economic, and cultural domains. The fact that ASEAN leaders have called for a quick establishment of a Zone of Peace, Freedom, and Neutrality [ZOPFAN] indicates that members of this organization are striving to set up a new regional security order under which stability for all countries in the region should be guaranteed on the basis of eliminating conflicts and promoting negotiations and cooperation without interference by the superpowers. If ZOPFAN becomes a reality, it will help stop conflicts in the region and prevent Southeast Asia from being manipulated by the big countries.

Although the bipolar world exists no more, a new threat has emerged due to the confrontation between two gigantic economic fortresses, namely the EC and North American Free Trade Agreement [NAFTA]. In spite of the fact that ASEAN enjoys the most active and rapid economic growth and has a population as large as that of the EC and NAFTA—ASEAN's population is 300 million; EC, 350 million; and the three NAFTA countries, 360 million—its gross national product, however, is only \$310 billion. Compared with EC and NAFTA which attained a GNP of \$4,370 and \$6,000 billion respectively, the ASEAN figure is very minimal.

Obviously, if the ASEAN countries do not promote economic cooperation among themselves, it is unlikely that their products can be exported to the EC and NAFTA member countries. The ASEAN countries, however, have realized this fact.

At the Fourth ASEAN summit conference in Singapore in January 1992, its member countries signed a joint agreement on strengthening ASEAN economic cooperation. Under this agreement, starting from 1992 the member countries will try to impose a 20 percent tax reduction levied on 15 items and other industrial and agricultural products during a period from five to eight years, and by the year 2008 a 5 percent tax will be levied on most items. This is a somewhat ambitious goal; however, it is likely to be accomplished. It is predicted that 15 years after its establishment, the ASEAN Free

Trade Area [AFTA] will be able to compete with the Western economic fortresses.

Undergoing several decades of war. Vietnam has no other desire than living in peace and stability for development. In 1976, Vietnam adopted a foreign policy based on the four principles of respecting the independence and sovereignty of other nations and noninterference of each other's internal affairs; refraining from allowing foreign countries to use its territory as a base for aggression and interference in other nations; establishing good neighborly and friendly relations with other countries; and resolving conflicts through negotiations while promoting cooperation among countries in the region. These principles have been consistently included in Vietnam's foreign policies. In the early 90's, Vietnam adopted a foreign policy of befriending all countries in the world for the sake of peace, independence, and development.

Vietnam's stand and aspiration in this regard are obvious to the region and the world and have received a warm welcome. The renovation process in Vietnam and the signing of the peace agreement in Cambodia have created a fine prerequisite for close cooperation between Vietnam and ASEAN.

It is necessary to say that regional cooperation has become the key feature in Vietnam's foreign policy. When former Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan advocated turning Indochina from a battlefield into a marketplace, he opened an opportunity for cooperation at various levels between the Indochinese and ASEAN countries, thus the development of Vietnam-ASEAN relations has been notably accelerated. ASEAN countries' direct investment in Vietnam has consistently increased. Singapore has become the largest trade parter with Vietnam. Meanwhile, foreign activities have increased considerably. Many leaders of ASEAN countries have visited Vietnam, including the Thai and Malaysian prime ministers, Singaporean Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew, the Philippine foreign minister, and the Thai crown prince and princess. Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, in return, paid a series of visits to the six ASEAN countries. In early October, General Secretary Do Muoi paid an official visit to Singapore and is scheduled to visit Thailand soon. This is the first visit to the two Southeast Asian countries by the party general secretary. This indicates that Vietnam has consistently maintained its policy of cooperation with all countries regardless of their political system and ideological differences.

Vietnam's increasing foreign activities and its official access to the Bali Treay of Amity and Cooperation indicate that Vietnam-ASEAN relations—after 40 years of confrontation—have developed into a close friend-ship and fruitful cooperation. Singaporean Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong said: Dating back to the past, we were partitioned by a barrier of distrust. But now this barrier exists no more and relations between ASEAN countries and between ASEAN and Vietnam and other Indochinese nations have improved considerably and in

conformity with developments of the era. With the Cambodian issue resolved and with Myanmar [Burma], sooner or later, being assimilated into the regional community, and with cooperation between Indochinese and ASEAN countries, the 10 Southeast Asian nations are ready to step into the new century as a single entity.

Vo Van Kiet Visits Knitwear Corporations

BK1310091193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 10 Oct 93

[Text] On 9 October, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet visited the Dong Xuan Knitwear Corporation and the Hanoi Textile and Knitwear United Enterprise and had a working session with the Vietnam Textile General Corporation. The prime minister was accompanied by Minister of Light Industry Dang Van Chu.

After visiting the Dong Xuan Knitwear Corporation and the Hanoi Textile and Knitwear United Enterprise, the prime minister had a working session with the Vietnam Textile General Corporation. This working session was attended by a large number of directors of various locally and centrally-run textile and knitwear factories in Hanoi. After hearing briefings by Mr. Nguyen Huu Vinh, director general of the Vietnam Textile General Corporation, and some other executive directors, the prime minister said: The textile and tailoring sector in the country is currently facing many pressing issues. The prime minister will therefore call a meeting with the Ministry of Light Industry and other relevant ministries and sectors in the near future to discuss and solve promptly a number of the most pressing issues and create a new momentum for the textile sector in 1994.

Vo Van Kiet Meets Leaders of Trade Unions

BK0810093193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] On 5 October in Hanoi, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet held a working session with the Secretariat of the Vietnam General Federation of Labor [VGFL] on some issues relating to the preparation of the Seventh VGFL National Congress. Present at the session were Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh; Comrade Phan Minh Tanh, director of the Mass Mobilization Central Committee; and some ministers and deputy ministers.

Comrade VGFL Chairman Nguyen Van Tu and other comrades in the VGFL Secretariat briefed Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet on the result of the trade union congresses at all levels as well as the preparation for the upcoming VGFL national congress to be held in early November. They presented suggestions, including some issues relating to government structures and policies to encourage workers to pay more attention to productivity, quality, and business efficiency. They also presented measures to help trade unions fulfill their role in protecting the workers' benefits, to partake in state

administration and economic management, and educate and motivate workers to participate positively in the national renovation.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet welcomed the VGFL leaders for their briefing on the preparation of the upcoming congress. He expressed his hope that the upcoming VGFL national congress will greatly and practically contribute to the building of stronger trade unions and workers' contingent to better support the national renovation.

Dao Duy Tung Chairs Party Secretariat Meeting

BK0910101793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 8 Oct 93

[Text] On 6-8 October in Hanoi, the party Central Committee Secretariat held a meeting to exchange experiences on the reform of party committee leadership in provinces and cities. Comrade Dao Duy Tung, member of the party Political Bureau and standing secretary of the party Central Committee, chaired the meeting.

From the theoretical angles and practical working experiences in many localities, the meeting participants confirmed the importance of the demand to reform the party leadership, in general, and the party leadership method in provinces and cities in particular. They considered this as one of urgent demands stemming from practical situation and from activities of party committees at all levels.

They contributed many opinions and experiences on procedures to issue decisions and on how to execute decisions and programs of action issued by the standing organs of the party committees in provinces and cities. They also expressed views on official documents, archive work, and so forth. Many participants offered practical suggestions relating to the party committee mechanism and sections of the provincial and city party committees departments, policies relating to party cadres, and guidance methods of the party secretariat over the provincial and city party committees.

Le Phuoc Tho Views Cadre-Related Work

Part Two

BK1010150393 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 16 Sep 93 p 3

["Part two, or last part" of article by Le Phuoc Tho: "Effect an Important Change in Cadre-Related Work in the New Situation"]

[Text] There should be an harmonious and essential approach with which to renovate concepts about cadre evaluation.

Throughout various revolutionary stages, our party and our esteemed Uncle Ho have always concerned themselves with cadre-related work. Recent party plenums shared the same observation of the party Central Committee's Third Plenum: The highly complex changing world situation has caused not inconsiderable difficulties for our country, and has, at the same time, further enriched our experiences in party building, particularly experiences on how "to guard against the danger of making the wrong decisions on policies and on the choice and appointment of leading cadres," and how "to oppose the scourge of being bureaucratic and staying aloof from the masses."

Now more than ever before, we should be all the more aware of and correctly comply with Uncle Ho's teaching: "Cadres are regarded as the root of all activities. Cadres are the capital of mass organizations. Only with capital can we earn profits. We will succeed in carrying out our policies and tasks if we have good cadres. Without good cadres, we will go bust; in other words, we will fail."

In the years to come, we should build a contingent of cadres qualified in both ethics and talents, capable of promptly solving the urgent demands arising from everyday life, particularly the demand to guide and run a market-oriented economy and broaden foreign economic relations.

Where can we start?

First, our orientation for generating a source of replenishment cadres should proceed from our new requirements and tasks. The period of transition to socialism is characteristically different from that of the war for national liberation. Cadre-related work should meet requirements for making the party and its political system politically and ideologically firm and organizationally strong, and should be upgraded to the required level as the country is shifting to a new mechanism.

To do so, we should ensure the attainment of the following three objectives:

- 1. Build a contingent of cadres, with the backbone being key cadres of various echelons, sectors, and grassroots establishments, especially cadres of strategic echelons. They must have a uniform structure and high quality, abilities, and wisdom suitable to our new mechanism and our open-door policy.
- 2. Steadily and effectively ensure continuous transition among the three generations of cadres so as to prepare manpower for the mid-term conference of party delegates and the Eighth Party Congress, and at the same time, to prepare cadres actively for the ensuing years. In a prompt and timely manner, assign those young cadres who have been trained and time-tested and meet standards for quality and ability to leading positions in order to ensure dynamism and continuous succession at various leadership organs. We should attach importance to the idea of associating older cadres with younger ones. We should strive to avoid renovating and rejuvenating the contingent of cadres in a superficial fashion or paying too much consideration to an age group and educational background.

3. It is necessary to avert and dispel negativism among the contingent of cadres, maintain discipline and order, and prevent opportunistic elements, people with political ambitions, and corrupt cadres from finding their way into leadership and management organs at various levels.

We are determined to replace promptly those leadership and management cadres who, suffering a lapse in their quality and having poor talents, have caused disappointment among the masses.

Apart from those objectives mentioned above, cadrerelated work should be closely linked with efforts to build a steadfast organizational apparatus. In reality, when talking about the use of talented people, we mean how to position cadres at the right place and in the most suitable position organizationally so as to create conditions for them to develop their talents fully. People working in an organization where the delineation of duties is unclear, where there is prolonged disunity within the internal ranks, or where the assignment of personnel is not characterized by the right people, right places, and right speciality will become ineffective and impotent because of a lack of organization.

Many lessons of experience have been cited by various localities:

If an organizational apparatus is cumbersome, unstable, and not harmonious, (as is the case with some localities where the provinces are split up or merged into other provinces and where a number of sections and departments are not carefully prepared), it will also adversely affect cadre-related work. Therefore, cadre-related work should not be separated from organizational work. We should base ourselves on correct organizational methods to handle cadre-related work, and strengthen ourselves organizationally. We should correctly solve organizational problems so as to carry out cadre-related work satisfactorily.

At present, the contingent of retired cadres is growing in number. Generally speaking, the majority of retired cadres have work experiences, enjoy high prestige among the people, and are enthusiastic for the revolutionary undertaking. Therefore, echelons and sectors should create conditions for these comrades to continue to contribute to the renovation process. First, we should attach importance to the supply of information so these comrades can be regularly informed of new issues. Meanwhile, various echelons should strive their best to care for the welfare of retired cadres.

The purpose of cadre-related work is to rally various talents of the country in all areas and in all economic components, including overseas Vietnamese patriots, regardless of whether they are inside or outside the party.

Therefore, in the period ahead, in the recruitment and use of cadres, we should pay greatest attention to the recruitment and use of nonparty cadres. This includes offering them leadership and management positions.

It is necessary to grasp these key points firmly:

Experiences obtained by various localities show that renovating cadre-related work requires a harmonious combination of various work links and various approaches in cadre planning. That is, we should have an orientation for our plan to create the source of manpower, recruit and provide cadres with training and refresher training, and carry out the policy on cadre management so as to meet requirements and tasks in the new revolutionary stage.

All measures to renovate cadre-related work must be carried out simultaneously, but first we must renovate the concept of evaluating cadres. Reality shows that there are many causes of the prevailing poor cadre-related work. The major one, however, is the obsolete concept of evaluating, selecting, assigning, and utilizing cadres, which has been carried out in an undemocratic manner. What are the causes of the obsolete concept?

It is true that in the past we evaluated cadres based on perceptions of perfectionism, feudal hierarchy, prejudice, and partiality. In many cases, evaluation and selection of cadres was heavily influenced by the trend to give preference to relatives and friends, to those who are sycophantic, and not to those who had differences with the evaluators. As a result, on many occasions, the evaluation, selection, and use of cadres was made not on the basis of their real talents and characteristics. There were cases of production and business establishments that performed very well in their business and contributed substantially to the state budget, but due to internal disunity, leaders of these establishments sometimes evaluated their cadres in a biased manner. It is obvious that in establishments and agencies where internal unity is shaky, the evaluation of cadres will be influenced by the trends of individualism, factionalism, or departmentalism.

I assume that you comrades have listened to the lecture on the "Introduction to the Process of Evaluation, Selection, and Use of Leading Cadres of All Levels." That is only an orientation to the contents and concrete measures of the task. Each locality and agency, however, should concretize these guidelines for actual implementation. The most important thing is that collective and staff agencies must adopt a correct perception in carrying out the task in a true democratic manner. Thus evaluation of cadres should be done in a truthful, objective, unprejudiced, and open-minded fashion.

To adopt a correct concept in evaluating cadres, we must first take into consideration the cadres' quality standard and the results of their performance. The evaluation should be done in a truly democratic and centralized fashion, while utmost effort must be made to avoid superficial democracy. (Standards for cadres as stipulated by the party Central Committee's Third Plenum Resolution).

What criteria should we adopt in examining and evaluating cadres?

We all know that the market economy operates within existing rules, such as the rule of supply and demand, the rule of value, the rule of competition, and so forth. Cadre-related work in an economic framework that operates in a market economic mechanism would naturally be influenced by certain rules, such as the rule of responsibility and interests, the rule of development and selection, and the rule of premeditated and spontaneous progress. We should realize, therefore, that the formulation of cadre-related work must be consistent, while accepting changes for the better. The vital point is that we must be able to foresee the issues arising in this task. This is because in the market economic system, some cadres mature very quickly, thus having a tendency to surge forward in a spontaneous manner, while at the same time, many others can not catch up with development of the system and give up right at the beginning.

While we attach importance to the quality standard of cadres in evaluating them, we must take into consideration the results of their performance in the framework of their authority. For example, in evaluating a business establishment director, we must look at the quality of its products, profits attained by the establishment, its contribution to the state budget, the living standard of its workers, and the direction of its development. If we belittle these factors and attach more importance to personnel and nice relationships with the cadres we evaluate and so forth, we will experience negativism and end up with a contingent of incompetent cadres.

While evaluating cadres without taking into consideration their quality and performance will have an adverse effect, it will be worse if we carry out this task with the influence of individualism, factionalism, and departmentalism.

In assessing the efficiency of cadres, we must take into consideration their performance in the socioeconomic and political domains. Reality shows that some business and production establishments, while performing well and earning good profits, created bad political consequences and were criticized by the people. As a result, the quality of cadre-related work at these establishments must be enhanced in an objective manner. We must promote the relationship between these cadres and their establishments while encouraging them to carry out more concrete tasks to improve their performance.

While adopting a correct stand in evaluating cadres, we must strive to carry out this task in a democratic fashion and in accordance with planning. We must listen to different ideas and sources of information while striving to eliminate inaccurate information. We must refrain from evaluating cadres by listening to rumors (especially those we do not know in person), information from relatives and friends, personal prejudices, and so forth. It is necessary to stress that in evaluating cadres we must take into consideration the contents of criticisms and self-criticisms conducted by the cadres themselves while listening to viewpoints of the people in their organization, community, and neighborhood.

Cadre evaluation based on new concepts and correct methods provides the groundwork for selecting and making good use of talented people.

To this end, we must adhere to the principle of democratic centralism and promote everyone's sense of responsibility toward cadre-related work; first, toward cadre evaluation. It is important for everyone to be responsible for the remarks and comments they make about each cadre.

All-important decisions concerning policies toward cadres and cadre-related work must necessarily be made by authoritative collectives (as specified under Decision 44 of the Political Bureau).

Cadre evaluation must be closely linked with cadre training to meet set goals.

Cadre training and refresher cadre training constitute a pressing current demand. Responsibility for this task rests with party committee echelons and administrative organs from the central down to the grassroots levels. In fact, as the party Central Committee's Fourth Plenum Resolution put it, to invest in cadre training work means to implement the human resource development strategy. Our investment in this field will certainly bring about the most effective results. Our failure to make an adequate investment in cadre training work will make it difficult for us to have a contingent of cadres capable of meeting the requirements of the new stage.

Through their conferences, different organizations have drawn experiences in diversifying training forms, including intensive training courses, on-the-job training courses, and incentive measures to encourage everyone to attend short- or long-term training courses. It is necessary to attach great importance to the task of summing up experiences drawn from real life situations and new problems arising from the new mechanism, and henceforth, help cadres at all levels enhance their leadership and management skills. It is important to combine those training activities provided by the party and state effectively with the personal efforts of each individual cadre to improve his or her skills. A very large number of cadres have substantially improved their skills thanks to their personal efforts to learn from real life situations. It does not necessarily mean that once a cadre completes a training course, he or she will automatically become a talented person. On the contrary, the decisive factor of success rests with each individual cadre's personal efforts to improve his or her skills. Each cadre must work out his or her own study program to improve his or her knowledge and ethics in accordance with Uncle Ho's instructions about the need for cadres to display "industry, thrift, honesty, righteousness, and impartiality." It is necessary for us to oppose all indications of negativism, because they are at variance with the nature of our regime.

Particularly, it is necessary to see to it that training activities are closely linked with the consistent, uniform, and balanced use of cadres in all fields. Greater efforts

are needed to provide training to women cadres; ethnic minority cadres; cadres in charge of religious affairs; and professional cadres, such as law enforcement officers, diplomats, economic or state management cadres, and so forth.

It is important to work out policies on allowances to cadres who attend short- or long-term training courses.

Due efforts must be made to renovate both the contents of learning activities and teaching methods, paying special attention to linking cadre planning with the formulation of socioeconomic and cultural development tasks to be carried out by each locality or sector. Thai Binh, Tien Giang, and many other provinces have clearly set forth the orientations and political tasks for each locality and each unit to implement in defining organizational structures, personnel planning goals, and cadre selection criteria.

The formulation of plans, and most importantly the implementation of cadre planning work, must be closely linked with efforts to organize and strengthen the overall mechanism as well as with endeavors to define the functions and tasks of each unit.

The process of formulating and implementing cadre planning work must be directed by party committee echelons and key leading officials in charge from the central down to the grassroots levels themselves. At the same time, it is necessary to bring the role of advisory organs into play in a satisfactory manner (instead of leaving everything to a few comrades or organizing committees to handle the implementation of cadre-related work).

This calls for efforts on the part of key comrade leaders—especially secretaries and deputy secretaries in charge of party committee echelons, chairpersons of people's committees at all levels, ministers, and heads of central government agencies—to grasp and perform cadre-related work personally. First they must create the source of replenishment cadres and help enhance cadres' skills and ethics to ensure succession and transition from one generation to another, including the availability of cadres to replace them, if necessary. This move constitutes a great political responsibility for all leaders to fulfill.

Arrangements must be made to review the implementation of cadre planning work at least once a year. (This must be done at the central, provincial, city, precinct, district, village, and ward levels)

As far as the central, provincial, and city levels are concerned, it is necessary to try by all means to form a contingent of cadres belonging to three alternate and successive age groups, and select a number of cadres under 40 who have done actual work at grassroots establishments to attend training courses or take charge of corresponding positions for a certain period of time. If

those cadres achieve work efficiency and prove themselves to be trustworthy, they will be promoted to higher positions before being assigned to key leading positions.

Along with conducting adequate refresher cadre training activities, it is necessary to attach importance to protecting those honest cadres who fall victim to false accusations, especially those cadres who, despite their enthusiasm for the renovation undertaking and work efficiency, still display shortcomings or commit mistakes in the process of shifting to the new mechanism.

It is also necessary to link the cadre evaluation, selection, and utilization process closely with the good application of policies on cadres to encourage everyone to operate profitably under the market mechanism.

Policies toward cadres include training, utilization, reward, and remuneration policies. First of all, it is necessary to provide due care to those who have rendered meritorious service to the nation, give good treatment to talented people and those cadres who achieve work efficiency, implement the policies toward village and ward cadres in a satisfactory manner, and so forth.

The decisive factor of the organization of implementation rests with the endeavors of key leading comrade leaders from the central down to the grassroots levels to grasp and direct cadre-related work personally, and also with the due efforts to strengthen the contingent of those who are in charge of or give advice to the leadership concerning personnel organization.

It is necessary to use the mass movement to disseminate cadre- related work widely inside and outside the party so as to oversee the activities of cadres and discover talents for the nation.

National Assembly Discusses Legislative Work

BK1010154593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 9 Oct 93

[Text] The National Assembly Office recently held a conference to discuss preparations for the 1994 law-building program and the legislative work of the Ninth National Assembly. The National Assembly Standing Committee briefed the conference on the legislative work of the Ninth National Assembly and urged organizations and individuals to present draft laws and decrees. The government and some agencies have, thus far, forwarded several drafts to the National Assembly Standing Committee.

In 1994, efforts must be made to perfect the SRV legal system to serve the renovation undertaking, the economic management mechanism, and foreign trade relations. Efforts must also be made to compile laws on the state apparatus and local administration. It is estimated that 28 draft laws and codes will be compiled and 11 decrees will be promulgated next year, including several incomplete ones left over in 1993.

Hanoi Municipal People's Council Opens Session

BK1310092393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 12 Oct 93

[Text] The Hanoi Municipal People's Council, tenth tenure, opened its 18th session today. At this two-day session, the Hanoi Municipal People's Council will focus mainly on determining the goals and orientations for developing Hanoi's foreign economic relations for the years leading to 1995 and 2000.

Over the past few years, particularly in 1993, the capital's foreign economic relations have developed and attained initial results in various fields, such as foreign investment, import-export, aid receipt, and tourism. To create momentum for better development in these fields, however, Hanoi municipality should undertake more positive, self-motivated, and rapid measures. This

should be discussed by members of the Hanoi Municipal People's Council during this session.

Hanoi-Haiphong Highway Project To Start

BK1410090093 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 13 Oct 93

[Text] The Hanoi-Haiphong Highway project is set to start. This has a capital of nearly \$250 million, being finalized the reconstruction of Highway 5, the main road linking the capital with Haiphong port city. [sentence as heard] Main fund providers will be the International Economic Cooperation and Development Fund of Taiwan, the Japanese Agency of Economic Cooperation Fund, and the Vietnamese Government. The new highway will measure 23 meters in width with a designed speed of 100 km per hour for large lorries.

